

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1347377-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 42

Page 37 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 38 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 39 ~ Referral/Consult;
Page 40 ~ Referral/Consult;
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Page 110 ~ Referral/Direct - 12-LS-303 Sec1 Serial 42/EOUSA;
Page 111 ~ Referral/Direct - 12-LS-303 Sec1 Serial 42/EOUSA;
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Page 182 ~ Duplicate;
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Page 191 ~ b6; b7C;
Page 281 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;
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Page 344 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1320931-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 42

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Page 298 ~ Duplicate;
Page 344 ~ b6; b7C; b7D;

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
memorandum

DATE: 6-3-85

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

IA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT:

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LS

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-NEW) (P)

On 5-30-85, [REDACTED]

(protect), a [REDACTED]

telephone [REDACTED]

provided the following information:

following information:

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

2 - Louisville
CLH/clh
(2)

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

116-303-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 4 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	
Tigue	

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 1-80)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-114

LS 12G-NEW



b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] stated that he is willing to help the FBI; however, he is to be called at his home after 4:00 p.m. When calling, the case agent should not mention the FBI.

b6
b7C
b7D

A review of records at the Kentucky Division of Motor Vehicles revealed that Kentucky license MTK828 is on a 1977 white Jaguar, VIN UH2W53424BW, which is registered to a ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, Route 5, Paris, Ky.

A review of records of the Kentucky Bureau of Driver's Licensing revealed that ANDREW C. THORNTON, Route 5, Hutchinson Road, Paris, Ky., has DOB 10-30-44 and SSAN 400-64-3373. THORNTON has driver's license number T653067108835, which expires 10-31-87.

A review of Louisville indices provided the following files on THORNTON:

44-1800;
183B-370;
92-1187-117;
100-0-8145 p2;
and, 190-100-57.

Inasmuch as THORNTON is known to have numerous weapons, he should be considered armed and dangerous.

Date

10/30/85

Title and Character of Case

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LS

Date Property Acquired

10/30/85

Source From Which Property Acquired

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

SAFE CABINET

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

EVIDENCE

To Be Returned

☐ Yes ☐ No

See Serial

Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit

Agent Assigned Case

☐ Yes ☐ No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Description of Property or Exhibit

1 original cassette tape recording of telephone conversation
between [redacted] and an unknown female.

**DO NOT DESTROY
ELSUR INDICES**

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only

Evidence Bag Seal # _____

Signature of Two
Special Agents
Verifying and Sealing
Bag Contents

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # _____

OO: _____

ORIGINAL (FILE COPY)

12D-303 1B-ED

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 30 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

[illegible]

Item No.

Remarks

Date **10/22/85**

Title and Character of Case

**ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III
NARCOTICS MATTER**

Date Property Acquired 10/17/85		Source From Which Property Acquired NC State Bureau of Investigation	
Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit LS - Bulky		Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same Evidence	
To Be Returned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Serial	Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit SA [Redacted]	Agent Assigned Case SA [Redacted] Louisville Division
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.			

Description of Property or Exhibit

**Toll records on telephone number 919/875-3261, RAEFORD
AVIATION, INC. for 1983.**

**Toll records on telephone number 919/875-9328, RAEFORD
AVIATION, INC. for 1983.**

Destroyed 5/19/90 See 1A (38)

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only	Signature of Two Special Agents Verifying and Sealing Bag Contents
Evidence Bag Seal # _____	_____

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # CE 12G-533	12G-303-1B (2)	12G-533-1B1																
OO: LOUISVILLE 12G-303	<table border="1"><tr><td>SEARCHED _____</td><td>INDEXED _____</td></tr><tr><td>SERIALIZED _____</td><td>FILED _____</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">NOV 4 1985</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">FBI - LOUISVILLE</td></tr></table>	SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____	SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____	NOV 4 1985		FBI - LOUISVILLE		<table border="1"><tr><td>SEARCHED _____</td><td>INDEXED _____</td></tr><tr><td>SERIALIZED _____</td><td>FILED _____</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">OCT 29 1985</td></tr><tr><td colspan="2">FBI - CHARLOTTE</td></tr></table>	SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____	SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____	OCT 29 1985		FBI - CHARLOTTE	
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SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____																	
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FBI - LOUISVILLE																		
SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____																	
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____																	
OCT 29 1985																		
FBI - CHARLOTTE																		
<i>"Just As Original"</i>																		

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

[illegible]

Item No.

Remarks

[illegible]

Date 5-27-86

Title and Character of Case

Andrew Carter Thornton, III (Deceased);
Narcotics Matter; OO: LS

Date Property Acquired

Source From Which Property Acquired

Confidential Source

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

Evidence

To Be Returned

See Serial

Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit

Agent Assigned Case

☐ Yes ☒ No

Same

☐ Yes ☒ No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Description of Property or Exhibit

*Destroyed 8/22/90
by SA's*
See 1A (39)

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only

Evidence Bag Seal # _____

Signature of Two
Special Agents
Verifying and Sealing
Bag Contents

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # 120-303

OO: LS

ORIGINAL (FILE COPY)

120-303-112 (3)

BLOCK STAMP			
SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....		
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....		
JUN 2 1986			
FBI - LOUISVILLE			

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

[illegible]

Item No.

Remarks

[illegible]

Date 6-4-86

Title and Character of Case

Andrew Carter Thornton (Deceased);
Narcotics Matter; OO:LS

Date Property Acquired <div></div>		Source From Which Property Acquired <u>Confidential Source</u>	
Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit <div></div>		Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same <u>Evidence</u>	
To Be Returned <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	See Serial <div></div>	Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit <div></div>	Agent Assigned Case <u>Same</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.			

Description of Property or Exhibit

*destroyed 8/22/90
by SA's*
See 1A

(39)

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only	Signature of Two Special Agents Verifying and Sealing Bag Contents	<div></div> <div></div>
Evidence Bag Seal # <div></div>		

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

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Field File # 120-303
OO: LS

ORIGINAL (FILE COPY)

120-303-132 (4)

BLOCK STAMP	
SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN 10 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

Accepted Custody	Date	Time	Released Custody	Date	Time
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		
Signature _____ Reason _____			_____		

Item No.

Remarks

Date 7-17-86

Title and Character of Case

Andrew Carter Thornton III (Deceased);
Narcotics Matter; oo: LS

Date Property Acquired	Source From Which Property Acquired		
	<u>Confidential Source</u>		
Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit		Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same	
		<u>Evidence</u>	
To Be Returned	See Serial	Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit	Agent Assigned Case
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			<u>Same</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.			

Description of Property or Exhibit

*destroyed 8/22/90
by SA's
See 1A (39)*

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only	
Evidence Bag Seal # _____	Signature of Two Special Agents Verifying and Sealing Bag Contents _____

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # <u>LS 120-303</u>	<div>120-303-113 (6)</div> <div>BLOCK STAMP</div> <div>SEARCHED.....INDEXED.....</div> <div>SERIALIZED.....FILED.....</div> <div>JUL 21 1986</div> <div>FBI - LOUISVILLE</div>
oo: <u>LS</u>	
ORIGINAL (FILE COPY)	

CHAIN OF CUSTODY

[illegible]

Item No.

Remarks

MEMORANDUM

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)

DATE: 6/7/85

FROM: SA PAUL C. TIGUE, JR.

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Memo of IA [redacted] dated June 3, 1985.

On June 4, 1985 [redacted] (PROTECT) met with this Agent, Special Agent (SA) [redacted] and Supervisor [redacted] at the [redacted] concerning information he wished to discuss concerning captioned subject.

b6
b7C

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

At this point [redacted] was instructed that the only thing he was to do was obtain THORNTON'S address in the Louisville area. He was firmly advised that any criminal acts committed by him would result in his immediate arrest and prosecution and that he was not to consider himself an Agent or employee of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

b6
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b7D

LEAD

LOUISVILLE DIVISION

AT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

Conduct arrest checks concerning [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

2 - Louisville
PCT/jag

(2)

I certify all indexing
has been done.

Date 6/10/85 Initials PCT

12G-303-2

By [signature]

Lead to [redacted]

[redacted] info

Tigue [signature]

b6
b7C

LS 12G-303

b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] and upon result of same consider having no further contacts with [redacted]

Attempt to determine if information provided by [redacted] is correct through other sources.

b6
b7C
b7D

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
memorandum

DATE: 6-14-85

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

IA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

SUBJECT:

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LOUISVILLE

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303) (P)

Re memo of IA [REDACTED], dated 6-3-85; and, memo
of SA PAUL C. TIGUE, JR., dated 6-7-85.

b6
b7C

Enclosed for case agent are arrest records and two photos
of [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

(2) - Louisville
CLH/clh
(2)

126-303-3
By [signature]
JUL
Tigue [signature]

b6
b7C

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 1-80)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-114

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303) (C)

Date 7/11/85

From : SA PAUL C. TIGUE, JR.

Subject : ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
(OO: LS)

Sergeant [redacted] Louisville Police Department (LPD) Narcotics was advised of information in this matter. He stated he was aware of subject and would have all his units notified to contact sources and look for subject's vehicle.

b6
b7c

Due to unstable nature of the complainant and dissemination of information above to LPD this matter is being closed pending further developments..

I certify all indexing
has been done.

Date 7/22 Initials PCT

① - Louisville (12G-303)

PCT:dsd
(1) dsd

12G-303-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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1 JUL 11 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	
<u>Tigue</u> <u>Ar</u>	

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

LS0015 254233IZ

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DE LS

R 11233IZ SEPT 85

FM LOUISVILLE (12G-303)

TO KNOXVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; (OO:LS)

INFORMATION RECEIVED BY LOUISVILLE DIVISION THAT SUBJECT WHO IS
A KNOWN MAJOR NARCOTICS TRANSPORTED AND DEALER AND PREVIOUSLY HAS
BEEN CONVICTED ON NARCOTICS RELATED CHARGES WAS FOUND DEAD IN
KNOXVILLE ON 9/11/85, IN POSSESSION OF 35 KILOS OF COCAINE.

DETECTIVE [REDACTED] (PHONETIC), [REDACTED] IN CID, KNOXVILLE,
TENNESSEE POLICE DEPARTMENT, ADVISED THAT THORNTON'S BODY WAS FOUND
APPROXIMATELY 5:00 AM, 9/11/85, WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS ON THE OUTSKIRTS
OF TOWN WITH A PARACHUTE THAT HAD NOT OPENED PROPERLY AND IN
POSSESSION OF 35 KILOS OF COCAINE. IDENTIFICATION ON THE BODY MAKES
IT ALMOST CERTAIN THAT IT IS SUBJECT, HOWEVER, HE IS PROCEEDING TO
GET THE BODY IDENTIFIED BY A RELATIVE.

FOR INFORMATION OF KNOXVILLE, THORNTON HAS BEEN OF INTEREST

OCIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R	<u>ms</u>
E	<u>ms</u>
NE	<u> </u>

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12G-303-5
Searched
Serialized
Indexed
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PAGE TWO DE L8 015 UNCLAS

TO THE LOUISVILLE DIVISION FOR THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS FOR HIS
NARCOTIC CONTACTS AND DEALINGS AND MOST RECENTLY WAS SUSPECT IN
BRINGING IN A LARGE SHIPMENT OF COCAINE FROM OUT OF THE COUNTRY.
FURTHER SUBJECT IS PRESENTLY UNDER SUPERVISION FROM THE PROBATION
AND PAROLE OFFICE EASTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY,
ON A PREVIOUS NARCOTICS CONVICTION.

KNOXVILLE WILL CONTACT DETECTIVE [REDACTED] AND/OR OTHER APPROPRIATE
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS AND DETERMINE FULL DETAILS OF SUBJECT'S
ACTIVITIES AND DEATH AND OBTAIN ALL INFORMATION REGARDING ANY
EVIDENCE AND/OR DOCUMENTS, TELEPHONE NUMBERS, ETC., ON THE BODY
WHICH WILL AID LOUISVILLE.

BT

015

NNNN

254 2334Z KX 2/RCC

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b7c

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
memorandum

DATE: 9-12-85

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

IA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III
NARCOTICS MATTER

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12E-303) (P)

b6
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On 9-12-85, [REDACTED]
telephone [REDACTED] provided the following information:

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] stated that approximately one month ago THORNTON
and two other white males came to [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] stated that THORNTON, whose picture he recognized
in the paper, and the other individuals were inquiring about a
"double wide" mobile home which was going to be "put on a horse
farm in Georgetown, Ky."

[REDACTED] stated that ~~xxxx~~ THORNTON said that they "wanted to
buy a mobile home that day".

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] advised that THE INDIVIDUALS left and did not come back;
however, the reason he was calling was that THORNTON may have bought
a mobile home at one of the other mobile home lots on Dixie Highway.

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] described the other two individuals as follows:

b6
b7C

Unsub #1, white male, 125-130 pounds, 50's, and light brown
hair;

Unsub #2, white male, athletic build, late 30's, dark brown
hair, and very well dressed.

Above for the information of the desk.

3 - Louisville
(2 - 12E-303) (1 - SA TIGUE - Info)
CLH/clh
(3)

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12E-303-6

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 15 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

[Signature]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 1-80)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-114

LT0012 0000018Z

PP OF NY

DE LS

P 120018Z SEPT 85

FM LOUISVILLE (120-303) (P)

TO CHARLOTTE PRIORITY

KNOXVILLE PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

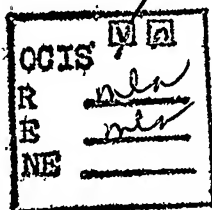
ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; (OO: LS)

RE LOUISVILLE TELEPHONE CALL TO ASHVILLE RESIDENT AGENCY,
CHARLOTTE DIVISION, AND LOUISVILLE TELEPHONE CALL TO KNOXVILLE
DIVISION, 9/12/85.

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM DEA AND REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALLS
REFLECT THAT CESSNA 444 CRASHED IN MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA,
WHICH WAS APPARENTLY THE AIRPLANE USED BY ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II,
TO MAKE HIS JUMP AT KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, 9/11/85.

SEARCHES OF SUBJECT'S RESIDENCE AT LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, REVEALED
SOME DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE BEING ANALYZED AT THIS TIME. ONE
ADDRESS FOUND AMONG THE DOCUMENTS AT SUBJECT'S RESIDENCE WAS A LETTER
FROM [REDACTED] TO

b6
b7c



DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-303-7
Searched _____
Serialized _____
Index _____
Filed _____

PAGE TWO DT LS 112 UNCLAS

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
LEAD CHARLOTTE DIVISION AT MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA.

WILL PER TELEPHONE CONVERSATION SECURE BUREAU INTEREST IN INSTANT
PLANE AND OBTAIN FULL DETAILS DUE TO THE PLANE HAVING
FLOWN A GREAT DISTANCE, I.E., USE OF BLADDER TANKS, ETC. ALSO
Determine, IF POSSIBLE, ANY INDICATION OF OTHER OCCUPANT IN THE PLANE
OTHER THAN THE SUBJECT. OBTAIN OTHER INFORMATION WHICH WILL AID
IN CONTINUING INVESTIGATION TO DEVELOP ASSOCIATES OF SUBJECT.

KNOXVILLE DIVISION AT KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE. WILL CONDUCT
APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATION REGARDING [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] ONLY KNOWN ASSOCIATE AT THIS TIME
OF SUBJECT IN KNOXVILLE AREA.

BT

Q10

END

000 0001Z 0X 1/RCC

CEO 016 257 0339Z

RR LS KX

DE CE

R 13 0339Z SEP 85

N

N

FM CHARLOTTE (12-NEW) (P)

TO LOUISVILLE (12E-NEW) ROUTINE

KNOXVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LOUISVILLE

RE LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO CHARLOTTE, DATED SEPTEMBER 12, 1985.

ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, [REDACTED] DEPUTY SHERIFF, CLAY
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, HAYESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, ADVISED THAT
HIS DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM [REDACTED]
AT 1:15 A.M., SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, THAT A PLANE HAD CRASHED INTO
A MOUNTAIN IN CLAY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. TIME OF CRASH, PUT BY
[REDACTED] AT ABOUT 11:30 P.M., SEPTEMBER 10, 1985. [REDACTED] STATED THAT HE
AND A COMPANION WERE FISHING NEAR THE CRASH SITE AND INITIALLY HEARD
A HUMMING SOUND OF AN AIRPLANE ENGINE, THEN HEARD SOUND LIKE DYNAMITE
EXPLODING, THEN OBSERVED BURNING AFTER THE DYNAMITE SOUND FOR ABOUT
ONE HOUR.

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-000-8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 14 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

7184

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PAGE TWO CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

THEY LEFT THE FISHING SITE AND CALLED THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. THE SITE OF CRASH WAS PLACED AT A LOCATION KNOWN AS COUNTY CORNER (CLAY, MACON, AND CHEROKEE COUNTYS, NORTH CAROLINA) AND THE CHIGO WORKOFF BORDERING THE FIRES CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT.

TO ARRIVE AT THE CRASH SITE, [] STATED THAT SITE IS FIFTEEN MILES NORTH OF HAYESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, UP A SWITCH BACK LOGGING ROAD TO A TRAIL WHICH MUST BE TRAVERSED FOR A TWO-MILE VERTICAL CLIMB ON FOOT UP THE MOUNTAIN, IN RUGGED MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN.

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[] ARRIVED AT THE CRASH SITE AT 5:30 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, AND WAS THE THIRD INDIVIDUAL AT THE SCENE BEING PRECEDED BY CLAY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, RESCUE SQUAD MEMBERS, [] AND []. UPON ARRIVAL, [] VIEWED FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN OVERLOOKING AN OVERLOOK TOWARD THE CRASH SCENE BELOW HIM. HIS FIRST IMPRESSION WAS "A MANGLED TORN UP PLANE" IN THREE SEVERED SECTIONS; A WING TO HIS LEFT IN WRECKAGE, COCKPIT PORTION IN CENTER OF WRECKAGE, AND TAIL SECTION STANDING UPRIGHT AT REAR SECTION OF WRECKAGE. ALSO, HE OBSERVED A PORTION OF THE TAIL IN A TREE. THE COCKPIT SECTION WAS THE PANEL AND FLIGHT STICK. [] MADE HIS WAY DOWN THE MOUNTAIN TO THE WRECKAGE AREA AND DETERMINED THE PLANE TO BE STEADIED ON SIDE OF MOUNTAIN BY A TREE.

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VAGE THREE CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

HIS INITIAL OBJECTIVE WAS TO LOCATE BODIES. HE FOUND NONE OR PORTIONS THEREOF. NO BLOOD WAS SEEN. IN THE WRECKAGE, HE SAW FIVE AIRPLANE SEATS INTACT AND ONE BURNED WHICH WAS AT THE FLIGHT INSTRUMENT PANEL ON THE LEFT SIDE OF PANEL (BELIEVED TO BE THE PILOT SECTION).

FURTHER SEARCH OF WRECKAGE BY [] LOCATED NOTHING RE PERSONAL BELONGINGS, EXTRA FUEL TANK/BLADDERS, ETC. [] DESCRIBED THE WRECKAGE SITE AS "CLEAN" OF ANYTHING EXCEPT A WRECKED PLANE. HOWEVER, HE LOCATED A PIECE OF PAPER FROM A COMPARTMENT IN THE INSTRUMENT PANEL. THIS PIECE OF PAPER CONTAINED THE ANN NUMBER AS 128SP, A SERIAL NUMBER AS 4040429, AND THE NAME OF A FAA REPRESENTATIVE AS

[] (NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED). THIS PIECE OF PAPER WAS GIVEN TO THE MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, SHERIFF, GEORGE MOSES, BECAUSE JURISDICTION WAS DETERMINED TO BE IN MACON COUNTY WHEN CRASH SITE WAS DETERMINED TO OCCUR 15-20 FEET INSIDE THE MACON COUNTY LINE. ALSO, [] OBSERVED A CHECKLIST IN THE SAME COMPARTMENT AS PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED WHERE HE LOCATED THE PIECE OF PAPER. THERE WAS NOTHING ON THIS PIECE OF PAPER AND [] LEFT IT IN THE COMPARTMENT.

[] STATED THAT WHEN NO BODIES OR EVIDENCE THEREOF WERE LOCATED AND BY ORDER OF THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, HE

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PAGE FOUR CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

SECURED THE AREA FOR FAA REPRESENTATIVE ARRIVAL. (NO ONE FROM FAA EVER DID ARRIVE.)

[REDACTED] IDENTIFIED THE PLANE AS A CESSNA 404 TWIN ENGINE. HE STATED THAT THE CRASH SITE IF ROUGHLY FIVE THOUSAND FEET (4,900 SOMETHING FEET) ABOVE SEA LEVEL. HE NOTED THAT THE ALTIMETER WAS SET AT 8,400 FEET.

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ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1985, SHERIFF GEORGE MOSES, MACON COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, SHERIFF'S OFFICE, FRANKLIN, NORTH CAROLINA, WAS MET WITH OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, HEREIN AFTER NAMED, AT THE CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE UPON THEIR RETURN FROM THE CRASH SITE LATE P.M. ON 9/12/85. MOSES ADVISED HE ASSUMED JURISDICTION OF CRASH LATE P.M. SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, AND AFTER HIS INITIAL SEARCH, SECURED THE AREA BY POSTING DEPUTIES UNTIL HE, SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] STATE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (SBI), NANTAHALA NATIONAL FOREST DISTRICT RANGER, [REDACTED] SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, DIVISION (KNOXVILLE PILOT); SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA), KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE; LIEUTENANT [REDACTED] KNOXVILLE,

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VAGE FIVE CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

TENNESSEE, CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND NARCOTICS DETECTIVE [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, WENT TO THE SITE DURING A.M. - P.M., SEPTEMBER 12, 1985, FOR FURTHER SEARCH. ACCORDING TO MOSES AND ALL INDIVIDUALS JUST NAMED, THEY FOUND NOTHING MORE THAN DID DEPUTY [REDACTED] AT THE SITE. MOSES ADVISED HE RELEASED THE PIECE OF PAPER HE RECEIVED FROM DEPUTY [REDACTED] AND THE CHECKLIST FROM THE COMPARTMENT IN THE INSTRUMENT PANEL (PREVIOUSLY DESCRIBED) TO SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] DEA, KNOXVILLE, WHO RETAINED THEIR POSSESSION.

SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] FBI, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, ADVISED THAT HIS OBSERVATIONS OF WRECKAGE WERE THAT THE PLANE WAS A CESSNA 441 AND THAT THE AUTOMATIC PILOT FUNCTIONS BUTTONS WERE DISENGAGED (THIS COULD HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY POWER INTERCEPTION). THE THROTTLES FOR BOTH ENGINES WERE FOUND (FULL OPEN), THERE WAS 26 INCHES OF PRESSURE ON MANIFOLD PRESSURE GAUGE- BOTH ENGINES, THE OIL PRESSURE GAUGE WAS UP (NORMAL), THE ALTIMETER READING WAS 8,400 FEET WITH A 30,00 BAROMETRIC PRESSURE READING.

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SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] COULD NOT STATE REASON FOR CRASH AND SAID THAT THIS WOULD BEST BE DONE BY FAA INVESTIGATOR. WHEN SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] WAS RELATING THIS TO SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED]

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VAGE SIX CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, RESIDENT AGENCY, SHERIFF MOSES INTERRUPTED STATING THAT IF THE AIRPLANE HAD HAD ABOUT 50 - 75 ADDITIONAL FEET IN HEIGHT, THE PLANE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PASS OVER THE MOUNTAIN INTO WHICH IT CRASHED. NO ONE IN THIS PARTY OF SEARCHERS WITH SHERIFF MOSES DISTURBED THE WRECKAGE AREA.

SA [REDACTED] ADDED THAT PART OF THE WRECKAGE WAS JAMMED INTO THE MOUNTAIN AND OTHER PARTS STREWN IN THE AREA ON TREES AND ON SIDE OF MOUNTAIN AND IN FOILAGE.

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SA [REDACTED] DEA, ADVISED HE WILL ATTEMPT ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1985, TO HAVE FAA PERSONNEL COME TO CRASH SCENE.

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SA [REDACTED] AND OTHERS IN SHERIFF MOSES PARTY ON SEPTEMBER 12, 1985, (PREVIOUSLY NAMED) BELIEVED HAND PROCESSING OF RECORDS I.E., BY DUSTING POWDER, FUTILE. STATE CONTROL PANEL BLACKENED RESULT OF FIRE OF WRECKED AIRCRAFT, BUT CONTROL PANEL IS NOT BURNED.

THERE ARE OTHER PARTICLES IN THE WRECKAGE BURNED AND NOT BURNED BUT MUTILATED/BROKEN. THEY FOUND NO TANGIBLE EVIDENCE TO DETERMINE NUMBER OF PEOPLE OCCUPYING PLANE; HOWEVER, ALL ADVISED THEY FOUND NOTHING TO INDICATE ANYONE OCCUPIED PLANE AT CRASH AND STATED THAT IF ANYONE WAS I THE AIRPLANE UPON IMPACT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EVIDENCED THAT HE WOULD HAVE HAD NO WAY TO ESCAPE UNHARMED AND THERE WOULD

VAGE SEVEN CE 12-NEW UNCLAS

HAVE BEEN EVIDENCE AT LEAST OF BLOOD AND MUTILATION OF BODY.

LIEUTENANT [] KNOXVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT,
AND DETECTIVE [] WERE IN NORTH CAROLINA AS A RESULT OF OF THEIR
DEPARTMENT'S INVESTIGATION OF SUBJECT'S PARACHUTE DEATH IN
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, EARLIER. LT. [] HAS COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTS,
ETC., RELEVANT TO THIS AND HAS RELEASED SAME TO FBI KNOXVILLE.
HE TOOK PHOTOGRAPHS OF CRASH SITE IN NORTH CAROLINA AND WILL
FORWARD SET TO FBI KNOXVILLE. LT. [] ADDED THAT ON THE PERSON
OF SUBJECT WHEN SUBJECT'S BODY WAS LOCATED IN KNOXVILLE WERE
TWO PLANE "N" NUMBERS. ONE WAS 128SP ON A KEY (SAME PLANE CRASHED
IN NORTH CAROLINA, ACCORDING TO LT. [] AND 1283P ON A MEDAL
TAG (PLANE NOT IDENTIFIED, ACCORDING TO LT. [])

LT. [] IDENTIFIED THE OWNER OF THE CRASHED AIRPLANE AS OPEX
AVIATION, INC., 340 EAST SANTA MARIA STREET, SANTA PAVLO, CALIFORNIA.

CRASH SCENE ABANDONED P.M. SEPTEMBER 12, 1985. WRECKAGE
REMAINS AT SCENE WITH NO PLANS TO RETRIEVE AT THIS TIME.

LIAISON ESTABLISHED WITH CLAY AND MACON COUNTY SHERIFFS TO
HAVE FAA OFFICIAL CONTACT FBI ASHEVILLE IF/WHEN THEY INVESTIGATE
CRASH.

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 9/12/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)
 ATTN: SA [REDACTED] LEXINGTON RA

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (12G-377) (P)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
 NARCOTICS MATTER
 OO: LS

*changed to
 12 0 due to
 nature of
 case 9/12/85
 JTB*

Re Louisville teletype to Knoxville, 9/11/85, captioned as above and telcall from SA [REDACTED] to SA [REDACTED] FBI Knoxville, 9/12/85.

Enclosed for Louisville are 46 xerox copies, one each, of contents of equipment and material found on the body of captioned subject at Knoxville, 9/11/85, and xerox copy of Knoxville Police Department fingerprint card for deceased subject.

For information of Louisville, enclosures include contents of two address books, one square and one with rounded edges, obtained from a velcro pouch on a chain around THORNTON's neck. Also in the pouch were identification and passport type material.

Additional investigation continuing at Knoxville re identity of any associates and potential contacts per enclosures.

For additional information of Louisville, two sets of aircraft keys were found on THORTON: 1. key bearing N1283P, per Naddis, owned by ELM ENTERPRISES, INCORPORATED, 5672 Indianapolis, East Chicago, Indiana. This aircraft has numerous Naddis entries and is a ROCKWELL GRAND COMMANDER, twin turboprop. 2. key bearing

② - Louisville (Encs 46) *46B*
 2 - Knoxville

JED:pb
 (4)

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-303-9

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

SEARCHED INDEXED
 SERIALIZED FILED

SEP 16 1985

FBI-LOUISVILLE

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R	<i>new</i>
E	<i>new</i>
NE	

KX 12G-377

N128SP registered per EPIC to OPEX AVIATION, INCORPORATED, 340 East Santa Maria Street, Santa Paula, California. This aircraft is a Cessna, model 404, serial 0429. This aircraft was located crashed in the mountains of Western North Carolina. DEA, FBI and Knoxville Police Department, Metro Narcotics, are currently at crash site and intend to process this aircraft.

Memorandum



Date 9-19-85

To : SAC Louisville

From : SCA [redacted]

Subject : ANDREW THORNTON - DECEASED INFO CONCERNING [redacted]

[redacted] called this office to inform the FBI that he may be privy to knowledge regarding an individual named Cowboy. [redacted] seems to think Cowboy may have been with Thornton when Thornton parachuted to his death with 75 lbs of cocaine on his back.

[redacted] admin
9/20/85

12G-303-10

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 20 1985	
[redacted]	
IV	

New cache of cocaine is found in Georgia

By KRISTI UMBREIT

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — A parachuting accident that killed a former Kentucky narcotics officer carrying \$15 million in cocaine has put a new twist in a developing federal investigation of narcotics smuggling between the United States and South America, authorities said yesterday.

Tony Acrt, an assistant special agent for the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration in Atlanta, said federal investigators hope to present the case to a grand jury soon.

Among the new developments in the case was the discovery of 220 pounds of cocaine in duffel bags Saturday in the mountains of northern Georgia, about 75 miles south of Knoxville.

Authorities said markings on those bags were identical to the ones Andrew Carter Thornton II, 40, was carrying.

Thornton, a former Lexington narcotics officer, fell to his death onto a Knoxville resident's driveway last Wednesday.

His reserve chute was deployed nearby but his main chute was not released. He was carrying about 7 pounds of cocaine. Authorities said he apparently jumped from a twin-engine Cessna 404, which later crashed into a North Carolina mountainside.

A key with the same identification number as the aircraft was found on Thornton.

Fran Wiley, assistant special agent for the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, said each black nylon bag found Saturday in the Chattahoochee National Forest in Fannin County, Ga., contained a green duffel bag with "USA 30" printed on it. Separate one-kilogram packages had "USA 10" written on them, she said.

"The duffel bags had markings on them that were identical to the ones found on the parachutist found in Knoxville," Ms. Wiley said. "Obviously they had to come from some other source than the United States."

"You can theorize many things whether (Thornton) had a ground crew down here. If he was going to pick it up here. We don't have any information on that."

Ms. Fannin said Georgia authorities used planes to look for other bundles of cocaine Saturday and Sunday but discontinued their search yesterday.

Thornton's death and the find in Georgia are figuring into a DEA investigation that has been going on for weeks, said Dale Schuitema, assistant special agent in charge.

"We're not far enough along for a grand jury yet," he said. "We've included the two finds in the investigation."

Acrt said a personal address book found on Thornton's body has helped the DEA investigation but he would not comment on any entries in the book.

"There's probably going to be some indictments not long from now. We can't compromise anything that will end up in court later," he said.

He said the entries in the book could be linked to "a fair-sized smuggling organization with roots in Colombia."

Thornton, a paratrooper and pilot, served for three years in the narcotics division on the Lexington police force where he worked from 1968 to 1977. He received a law degree from the University of Kentucky in 1977.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE B-1

Date: 9/17/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: NEW CACHE OF COCAINE
IS FOUND IN GEORGIA

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

OCIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
E	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-303-12

FBI/DOJ

Police believe chutist jumped after setting plane on auto-pilot

Information for this story was also gathered by The Associated Press.

By WILLIAM KEESLER
and RICHARD WILSON

Courier-Journal Staff Writers

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Andrew Carter Thornton II apparently set a twin-engine plane on auto-pilot over Knoxville before parachuting to his death early Wednesday with about 75 pounds of cocaine, authorities said yesterday.

A key found on the body of the former Lexington police officer and attorney had the same identifying numbers — NOV128SP — as an unmanned Cessna 404 that crashed about 1:15 a.m. Wednesday in North Carolina, said Capt. Stan Bullen, commander of the Knoxville Metro Police Department's Organized Crime Unit.

The body of Thornton, 40, was found in a residential driveway about 8:45 a.m. Wednesday, lying atop his unopened main chute, his reserve chute deployed nearby.

Dale Schuitema, a DEA spokesman in Atlanta, said the "natural assumption" is that Thornton was flying the \$15 million in cocaine from a foreign country — most likely Colombia or somewhere else in South America.

Dr. Robert Lash, a Federal Aviation Authority investigator, said the timing of the crash and Thornton's jump led officials to believe that the plane, which has a range of about 2,000 miles, was the one Thornton used.

Bullen said that each of the 34 plastic-and-tape packages in which the cocaine was shipped was labeled "USA" and had numbers that

apparently tell where the drug was produced and where it was going.

Bullen said local investigators will compare those numbers with ones on cocaine that police found in other parts of the country to determine what they mean.

Investigators from the Knoxville department, North Carolina's State Bureau of Investigation, the FAA, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency and the FBI spent much of yesterday at the crash site, about 60 miles south of Knoxville.

Ronnie Castle, a deputy with the Macon County (N.C.) Sheriff's Department, said the officials had to hike for 1½ hours across rugged terrain to reach the crash deep in the Nantahala National Forest.

The crash was reported to the Clay County, N.C., sheriff's department about 1:15 a.m., dispatcher Carvel Bright said. "A couple of fishermen" on Nantahala Lake, she said, "heard an explosion and then saw fire on the mountain."

Tony Acri, assistant special agent of the DEA in Atlanta, said the agency had not been tracking the plane before the crash.

Officials had not determined to whom the plane was registered, said Charles Fouts, an investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board, which investigates all civilian plane crashes.

The FAA's last registry was with Opex Aviation Inc. of Santa Paula, Calif. An Opex official, Graham Butler, said the plane had been sold two months ago.

Airplane broker Ron Schmidt of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., said he sold

See KEY

Back page, col. 1, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-1

Date: 9/13/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: POLICE BELIEVE CHUTIST
JUMPED AFTER SETTING PLANE
ON AUTO-PILOT

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

COPY SENT BUREAU SEP 24 1985

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-303-13

FBI/DOJ

Continued from Page One

the plane Monday to a company he identified as Key Air of Miami. But there is no Key Air listed in the Miami telephone directory, and Schmidt said he could not identify the young pilot who picked up the plane.

Detectives in Knoxville, meanwhile, began checking about 50 telephone numbers that were found in Thornton's effects. Bullen said some of the numbers lacked area codes and some appeared to be in code.

"I think it's likely that there are Kentucky numbers in there since he's from Kentucky," Bullen said.

Two or three numbers appeared to be from Knoxville, he said, although metro narcotics officers had no record of previous activities by Thornton.

Bullen said Thornton, a pilot and holder of an eighth-level black belt in the martial arts, was carrying several papers in a coat pocket, including his passport and verses citing the virtue of a mercenary lifestyle.

He also was wearing a bullet-proof vest and was carrying two pistols, a stiletto, special goggles for seeing at night, several compasses, liquid vitamins, dehydrated food, about \$4,500 in cash, six gold krugerrands and identification papers in at least two names, investigators said.

There still was no explanation why Thornton, a former paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division who carefully packed his own expensive parachutes, died in Wednesday morning's jump.

Lt. Charles Coleman of the metro police said Thornton used only his reserve parachute, which was found about five feet from his body. But he had managed to guide himself between a house, a garage

and a tree onto a flat gravel area behind a home, Coleman said.

"He almost made that landing," Coleman said.

Lash said that Thornton died from a lacerated aorta. "He landed on the cocaine, broke his ribs and stretched his aorta to the breaking point."

Lash, who estimated the time of death as 1 to 2 a.m. Wednesday, said Thornton might have survived if he had landed in a softer spot.

Spokesmen for the FBI and DEA would not say yesterday if there were any investigations pending against Thornton since his November 1982 release from the Federal Correctional Institution near Lexington.

Thornton was sentenced in June 1982 to six months in prison, fined \$5,000 and placed on five years' probation after pleading no contest to a misdemeanor charge of marijuana smuggling conspiracy.

Capt. John Lille said the Kentucky State Police had no pending cases involving Thornton.

Marvin Little, a Lexington-Fayette Urban County police detective, said police seized some of Thornton's records when they searched his apartment and a van at his townhouse in southeastern Lexington on Wednesday. Little would not say what the records showed.

Other items seized, he said, included "small quantities" of some chemicals, tear gas, blasting caps and flares. "They were items that we felt were unsafe to be in an apartment so we had the fire department dispose of them," he said.

John McFadden, Lexington's police chief since 1980, and a member of the department since 1957, said yesterday that Thornton was an "average" officer.

Thornton joined the department in August 1968 and served in the patrol, narcotics, detective and criminal intelligence units before

he resigned in 1977, several months after earning his law degree at the University of Kentucky, McFadden said.

McFadden said that Thornton, also a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and Sewanee Military Academy, had never worked in undercover narcotics investigations, and added that he also did not recall his being involved in any "monumental cases."

Several of Thornton's neighbors said yesterday that they seldom saw him.

Rodney Hughes, 20, said the episode had "been the talk" of the area around Thornton's apartment at Merrick Place since Wednesday.

Hughes said he never met Thornton but had seen "some people moving firearms, explosives, (and) stuff like that" from the trunk of a car in front of Thornton's apartment early one day last summer.

He said he paid little attention to the incident because "a lot of people around here carry guns. I guess it's their hobby."

Hughes also said that "it seemed like every other week" Thornton would have "a wild party."

But Mrs. William Lucas, whose townhouse was separated by one other unit from Thornton's, said she and her husband were never bothered by any parties.

Mrs. Lucas, who said she seldom saw Thornton more than once a week, described him as "very nice" and said he always greeted her when they met outside.

Thornton's survivors include his parents, Carter and Margaret Cummins Thornton of Bourbon County; a brother, Timothy, also of Bourbon County; and a sister, Margaret Thornton Buckley of Lexington.

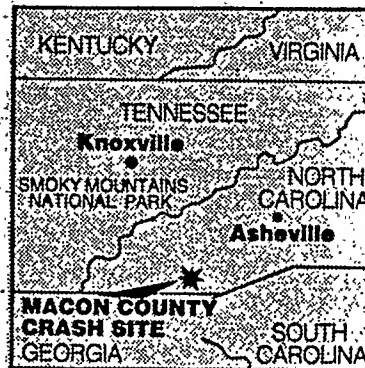
A graveside funeral will be at 10 a.m. tomorrow at Paris Cemetery. Lusk Funeral Home in Paris is in charge of arrangements.

Friends may contribute to the United States Parachute Association, 1440 Duke St., Alexandria, Va. 22314.



Thirty-four bundles of cocaine recovered from the body of a parachutist were put on display yesterday in Knoxville, Tenn. The parachutist died after he jumped from a plane that police believe he was flying. Wreckage of a plane was found in a remote area of North Carolina.

Associated Press Photo
Staff Map



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RR AT KX
DE L

R 25022Z SEP 85

FM LOUI VILLE (12G-303)

TO ATLANTA ROUTINE

KNOXVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; (OO: L)

RE LOUI VILLE TELEPHONE CALL TO [REDACTED] 9/24/85.

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FOR INFORMATION OF ATLANTA ON 9/11/85, SUBJECT WAS FOUND
DECEASED IN KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, AFTER HAVING TRIED TO PARACHUTE
WITH 75 POUND OF COCAINE. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION AT THORNTON'S
RESIDENCE IN LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, AND REVIEW OF MATERIAL FOUND ON
SUBJECT'S BODY REVEALED ADDRESS BOOKS AND OTHER CORRESPONDENCE OF
THORNTON.

ON INSTANT DATE SOURCE WAS CONTACTED IN LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY,
WHO ADVISED THAT THORNTON HAD AN ASSOCIATE WHOSE NICKNAME IS COWBOY.
THIS INDIVIDUAL IS DESCRIBED AS A WHITE MALE, 6'4", 190-200 POUNDS,
EARLY 30s, BROWN HAIR, WHO ALLEGEDLY HAD DONE COMBAT DUTY WITH

DO NOT DESTROY - FOIPA

12-303-14
SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED _____
INDEXED _____
FILED _____

PAGE TWO DE L: 006 UNCL A.

THORNTON IN VIET NAM. THE INDIVIDUAL IS A CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF THORNTON IN VARIOUS SKYDIVING ASSOCIATION AND STUNT. THIS COWBOY HAD BEEN OBSERVED WITH THORNTON ON SEVERAL OCCASION OUT OF THE COUNTRY BOTH IN HONDURA AND IN MEXICO AND KEY WEST.

THE INDIVIDUAL (COWBOY) WAS SEEN WITH THORNTON A LATE AFTERNOON APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK OR WEEK AND HALF PRIOR TO THORNTON'S DEATH.

A REVIEW OF TELEPHONE ADDRESS BOOK FOR THORNTON REVEALS THAT AN ENTRY IN THE BOOK ON HIS PERSON AT THE TIME OF HIS DEATH FOR A WILLIAM, COWBOY, 2901 REMAINDER OF THE ADDRESS IS NOT CLEAR BUT APPEARS TO BE REPONT ROAD, FURTHER NOTATION, 0-2370930 AND H-2612492, BELOW THAT IS A NOTATION M261-7750 EXTENSION 2702 AND P-898-5524.

PERSON INTERVIEWED IN LEXINGTON ADVISED THAT HE HAD BEEN ADVISED THAT COWBOY WAS SUPPOSE TO BE A REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AND THAT HE AND THORNTON BOTH ROUTINELY CARRIED A LARGE AMOUNT OF WEAPONS WHEN THEY MADE TRIPS.

REVIEW OF THORNTON'S TELEPHONE ADDRESS BOOK REVEALED THAT P MAY STAND FOR A PAGER NUMBER.

FURTHER [REDACTED] ADVISED ON A CURRENCY CHECK OF STANDARD MATERIAL THAT A DAVID L. WILLIAMS RESIDE AT 3651 IVY ROAD, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, AND MAY BE THE SUBJECT OF A DEA INVESTIGATION AT THIS TIME.

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PAGE THREE DE L 006 UNCL A

LEAD ATLANTA DIVISION AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA. WILL CONDUCT
FULL INVESTIGATION TO DEVELOP ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE ABOUT
COWBOY WILLIAM A. FORT FORTH ABOVE IN AN ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP WHETHER
THIS INDIVIDUAL COULD HAVE BEEN WITH THORNTON AT THE TIME OF CRASH
OF THE PLANE THAT THORNTON WAS FLYING WHEN HE PARACHUTED INTO
KNOXVILLE. ALSO ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN PHOTOGRAPH OF DAVID L. WILLIAMS
SO IT CAN BE DISPLAYED TO WITNESSES IN LEXINGTON IN AN ATTEMPT TO
IDENTIFY HIM BY THE ALIAS.

BT

006

NNNN

Parachutist with \$15 million in cocaine falls to his death

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY. PAGE A-1

Date: 9/12/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: PARACHUTIST WITH \$15 MILLION IN COCAINE FALLS TO HIS DEATH

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

Information for this story was gathered by staff writers Robert T. Garrett, Richard Wilson and R. G. Dunlop, special writer Roger Harris and The Associated Press.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Former Lexington police narcotics officer Andrew Carter Thornton II, who gained notoriety in drug-smuggling investigations several years ago, died early yesterday when he tried to parachute into Knoxville with \$15 million of cocaine.

Thornton, who was heavily armed and wearing a bulletproof vest, fell to his death on a gravel driveway, according to police.

Police said Thornton, 40, was carrying 34 kilograms of cocaine — about 75 pounds — in an Army duffel bag, as well as two automatic weapons and several knives, and was wearing night-vision goggles.

Lt. Charles Coleman of the Knoxville Metro Police Department said Thornton's main parachute never

opened. The reserve chute did deploy, Coleman said, slowing his descent.

Police said they suspect Thornton jumped from a small aircraft that witnesses said was traveling northwest to southeast, but authorities had no information on where the plane came from or where it was headed.

Downtown Island Airport is about three-quarters of a mile from where Thornton fell, but a spokesman at the airport said no planes landed there overnight. A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Authority said the plane would have to have been

flying very low because there was nothing on radar at the time.

One police officer, who asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak about the situation, said the FBI has told Knoxville police that they are investigating a tip that a man was seen practicing low-level, reserve-chute jumps in Kentucky on Tuesday.

No other information about that possibility was available last night.

Fred Myers, 85, discovered the body about 8:45 a.m., about eight hours after Thornton died.

"I got up to shave and looked out my window and saw him," Myers said.

"It looks like he jumped out with too heavy a load," he said.

However, Coleman said that he did not think the weight of the cocaine contributed to the accident. Thornton apparently died of a ruptured aorta, according to unofficial autopsy results.

Thornton, the son of a Paris horse breeder, was a Lexington police officer in the early 1970s, serving as a narcotics officer for three years.

After leaving the force, he attended law school at the University of Kentucky and became an attorney in Lexington before being implicated by federal authorities as a participant in an international drug- and weapons-smuggling ring.

Thornton was indicted in Fresno, Calif., in October 1981 on charges of conspiracy to import and distribute

See COCAINE-LADEN

Back page, col. 3, this section

COPY SENT BUREAU SEP 24 1985

12-303-15

Continued from Page One

drugs. He eventually pleaded no contest to a reduced misdemeanor charge of marijuana-smuggling conspiracy.

He was sentenced in June 1982 to six months in prison, fined \$5,000 and placed on five years' probation. He was released from the Federal Correctional Institution near Lexington in November 1982 after serving five months of the six-month sentence.

Charles Webb, a federal probation officer, said yesterday that Thornton was halfway through his probationary period when he died.

Knox County Medical Examiner Randall Pedigo said Thornton appeared to have been dead for eight hours when the body was found.

"There was a trickle of blood from his nose that had dried on each cheek. Other than that he looked OK," Johnson said. "He was lying on his back with his knapsack half under him."

Metro Narcotics Squad Lt. Jerry Day said Thornton was "aiming for this area, and there was probably someone supposed to meet him."

Tony Aciri, assistant special agent in the Atlanta office of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, said the mountain passes and clandestine airstrips in Appalachia provide good cover for smugglers hoping to beat a DEA crackdown on drug peddlers.

Aciri's office, which oversees activity in Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, said cocaine is "smuggled into the (Appalachian) area and picked up by Colombians and other groups, and distributed from there."

He said the area's access to interstate highways appeals to smugglers looking for quick getaway and distribution routes.

"Our records . . . show that we've had a considerable increase in activity in Eastern Tennessee," Aciri said.

Day said, "It was just a matter of time until we had something like this." He said agents found brown-wrapped bundles of cocaine, each the size of a football, inside the duffel bag.

Parachuting expert Rick Snow of Knoxville, asked by police to help in

the investigation, said Thornton appeared to be an expert jumper because the chute was an expensive one.

A friend of Thornton's said last night in Lexington that he was surprised to learn that Thornton died in a parachuting accident.

"He was an expert skydiver and the type of guy who wouldn't even let anyone touch his pack. He was a fanatic" about his equipment, said the friend, who did not want to be named because of the situation.

A person answering the telephone at Thornton's home said family members did not wish to comment last night.

Thornton was charged with participating in an international drug-smuggling ring that also traded in stolen high-technology U.S. military equipment, according to federal indictments.

The ring included several former Lexington policemen and other Kentuckians and allegedly was masterminded by Lexington native Bradley F. Bryant, according to the federal indictments issued in Fresno in 1981.

Those indictments said Bryant and his friends and associates conspired to sell more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana smuggled from Mexico and Colombia since 1978.

The indictments accused several defendants of stealing a variety of sophisticated weapons and equipment from the China Lake Naval Weapons Center in California in 1979.

Bryant was convicted of illegally possessing a handgun silencer in 1980, of selling 804 pounds of marijuana to undercover police in 1981 and of marijuana-smuggling conspir-

acy, fraud and embezzlement in 1982.

On Jan. 11, 1979, according to the federal indictment, a 10-ton DC-4 cargo plane was flown to Lexington's Blue Grass Field, where marijuana was unloaded. The DC-4 then was flown to Louisville's Bowman Field, where it was abandoned.

Federal prosecutors accused Thornton, a pilot, of flying the plane from South America to Kentucky.

Thornton, who pleaded no contest, maintained he had neither flown the plane nor been engaged in the drug conspiracy. He said at his sentencing that he was innocent but that he lacked the resources to fight the U.S. Department of Justice.

During his sentencing in June 1982, Thornton argued he should not be incarcerated because of reports that there was a contract on his life.

In February 1982, Thornton told police he had been shot twice in the chest outside the Merrick Inn restaurant in Lexington, but had escaped injury because he was wearing a bulletproof vest.

Numerous news reports in 1981 and 1982 linked Bryant and his associates to a larger group known in some law-enforcement circles as "The Company."

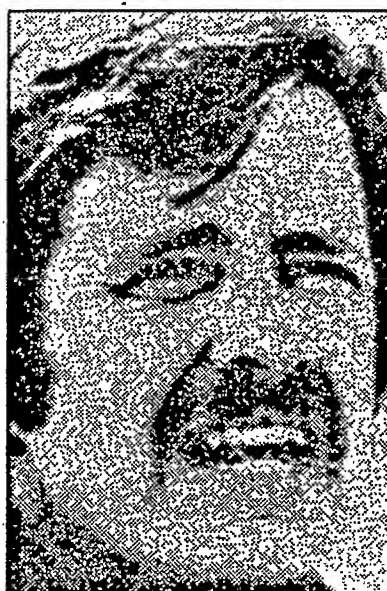
It was described in a 1980 federal indictment in East St. Louis, Ill., as a nationwide dope- and gun-running syndicate with more than 300 members and \$26 million in boats, planes, vehicles and warehouses. The 1980 indictment did not name Bryant and the other Kentuckians, however.

Among the alleged activities of the "Bradley Bryant group" was the purchase of the DC-4 for transporting marijuana from South America.

Thornton was a Lexington police officer in the early 1970s before being implicated by federal authorities in an international drug- and gun-smuggling ring.

Andrew Carter
Thornton II

Associated Press



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Drug-laden chutist may be linked to plane crash

Ex-narcotics agent carrying cocaine plunges to his death

A former Lexington, Ky., narcotics agent who parachuted to his death into a Knoxville, Tenn., backyard with guns, knives and cocaine worth more than \$14 million may be linked to a plane crash 60 miles away, police say.

The parachutist was identified as Andrew Carter Thornton II, 40, of Paris, Ky. Thornton served on the Lexington police force between 1968 and 1977 and was a narcotics officer from 1970-73, Police Chief John McFadden said.

Thornton was on probation after pleading no contest to a marijuana-smuggling charge and allegedly was involved in the dumping of a DC-4 at Bowman Field in Louisville that was used to transport marijuana to Lexington.

Knoxville detective Charles Coleman said investigators had no other clues as to how Thornton could have landed in the quiet, residential neighborhood.

"We're looking at the possibility there was a plane with two people and that the pilot dumped this kid and then flew somewhere else to dump his plane," Coleman said. "But right now, we've got nothing to connect them."

Searchers found no bodies in the wreckage of the five-seat, twin-engine Cessna at the Macon County, N.C., crash site, about 60 miles south of Knoxville. The craft was equipped with autopilot, but it wasn't clear if it was engaged.

The plane crashed about 1:15 a.m. Louisville time yesterday, police said. Thornton's body was discovered just before 9 a.m. on the same day. A coroner's report said Thornton, who apparently used only his reserve chute to cushion the fall, died of a broken neck and could have been dead for eight hours when he was found.

Thornton also was a disbarred lawyer and a decorated Vietnam War veteran who was on probation for the 1982 no-contest plea in Fresno, Calif., on a misdemeanor marijuana-smuggling charge. He was released from the Lexington, Ky., Federal Correctional Institution after serving five months of the six-month sentence.

The charge resulted when prosecutors decided they didn't have sufficient evidence to prosecute Thornton on an indictment for allegedly flying a plane into South America for a drug ring.

The ring allegedly included several former Lexington police officers and other Kentuckians. It allegedly was masterminded by Lexington native Bradley F. Bryant.

Federal indictments issued in Fresno in 1981 said Bryant and his associates conspired to sell more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana smuggled from Mexico and Colombia since 1978.

The indictments also accused several defendants of stealing a variety of sophisticated weapons and equipment from the China Lake Naval Weapons Center in California in 1979.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Date:

Edition:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

COPY SENT BUREAU SEP 24 1985

Numerous news reports in 1981 and 1982 linked Bryant and his associates to a large group known in some law-enforcement circles as "The Company."

It has been described by federal authorities as a nationwide dope- and gun-running syndicate with more than 300 members and \$26 million worth of boats, planes, vehicles and warehouses.

DC-4 abandoned in Louisville

Among the alleged activities of the "Bradley Bryant group" was the purchase of an old government DC-4 airplane for transporting marijuana from South America.

On Jan. 11, 1979, according to a federal indictment, the 10-ton cargo plane was flown to Lexington's Blue Grass Field, where marijuana was unloaded. The DC-4 then was taken to Louisville's Bowman Field and abandoned.

Federal prosecutors accused Thornton of flying the plane from South America to Kentucky.

Thornton's reserve chute had been deployed and was lying next to him when he was discovered in the gravel driveway behind the home of Fred M. Myers, an 85-year-old retired engineer.

"I got up to shave and looked out my window and saw him. It looks like he jumped out with too heavy a load," said Myers.

"He had bags attached everywhere," said Ralph Johnson, 63, a neighbor. "There was a trickle of blood from his nose that had dried on each cheek. Other than that he looked OK. He was lying on his back with his knapsack half under him."

In addition to more than 70 pounds of cocaine, police said, Thornton was carrying an automatic 9mm pistol, a 22-caliber pistol, several knives, survival gear and rations. He wore a bulletproof vest and had a pair of night-vision goggles.

The incident was the latest drug-related episode in the region, which has become a haven for smugglers since federal authorities began cracking down on narcotics smuggling in Miami and other coastal areas.

Metro Narcotics Squad Lt. Jerry Day said the parachutist was "aiming for this area, and there was probably someone supposed to meet him."

Day said markings on the cocaine bundles suggested the drug was being imported directly from South America.

Tony Acri, assistant special agent in the Atlanta office of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, said the mountain passes and remote airstrips of Appalachia provide good cover for smugglers looking for alternate routes in the wake of a DEA crackdown on drug smugglers in Miami and other coastal ports.

Material for this story also was gathered by The Associated Press.

Soldier-of-fortune drug smuggler lived on life's ragged edge

By **ROBERT T. GARRETT**
and **RICHARD WILSON**
Courier-Journal Staff Writers

LEXINGTON, Ky. — From Bourbon County boyhood of upper-middle-class respectability to his bizarre death as a skydiving cocaine smuggler last week, Andrew Carter "Drew" Thornton II made up his own rules and defied the odds.

Living both inside and outside the law, Thornton became a swashbuckling legend to some in the Bluegrass and a tawdry, B-grade James Bond character to others.

"I figured it was just a matter of time before something happened to Drew because he was always living on the edge," said Dick

Stoops, who runs the Lexington area parachute club to which Thornton belonged for more than a decade.

"He was always the last one to open his chute. ... It's not that he had a death wish. It's just that he liked the adventure."

According to Thornton's acquaintances, his derring-do includ-

ed parachuting off cliffs in Norway and skyscrapers in downtown Louisville; piloting planes through severe storms and aeronautical acrobatics; traveling the country in disguise; toying with weapons and spy gadgetry; and honing his skills as an athlete and martial-arts expert.

According to federal law-en-

forcement authorities, Thornton's bravado was incidental to his record as a cop gone wrong, a lawyer in disgrace and a menace to society who was drawn into big-money drug deals and a lurid, violent underworld.

According to Thornton's loyal friends, the macho image he cultivated as a survivalist and a soldier of fortune concealed a generosity, charm and sensitivity rarely found.

The 40-year-old Thornton died in a Knoxville, Tenn., driveway early Wednesday after apparently hauling at least \$15 million worth of cocaine from South America, ditching his airplane and failing to parachute to safety with about 75

pounds of cocaine strapped to his body.

Authorities are still investigating the incident.

Thornton was buried yesterday in his hometown of Paris, Ky., after about 500 people attended his funeral.

He spent most of his boyhood on Threave Main Stud, a small thoroughbred horse farm southwest of Paris, which his parents, Carter and Margaret Thornton, had leased and then managed to buy after years of work in the horse business.

An acolyte at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Paris who spent some summers at a church camp in Beattyville and who attended cotillion at the old Phoenix Hotel

in Lexington, Drew Thornton attracted little attention as a boy, said childhood friends.

"He grew up at a 180-degree direction from the way he ended up," said Doug Bell, a Paris electrical contractor who knew Thornton as a boy.

"He was straight when I knew him," Bell said. "I don't think he deviated from anything until he got on the (Lexington) police force. I guess that money and everything kind of screwed him up."

Buckner Hinkle Jr., another boyhood acquaintance who is now a lawyer in Lexington, said Thornton seemed slightly out of step with his parents, his younger brother,

See **THORNTON**

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-1

Date: 9/15/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: SOLDIER OF FORTUNE DRUG
SMUGGLER LIVED ON LIFE'S
RAGGED EDGE

Character:

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SEP 24 1985

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Continued from Page One

Timothy, and his younger sister, Margaret.

"Mr. and Mrs. Thornton are just two real nice people who've worked hard for everything they've got," Hinkle said. "Tim comes from the same mold they do. He took to horses and the horse business at a really young age. But Drew didn't."

E. Allen Prichard, another boyhood acquaintance who is a lawyer in Charlotte, N.C., recalled that he and Drew Thornton went together in a car pool to Sayre School, a private school in Lexington.

Prichard's father, the late Edward F. Prichard Jr., a New Deal official and adviser to many Kentucky governors, frequently drove the boys from Paris to school. Thornton used to irritate the elder Prichard by reaching from the back seat and momentarily blocking his vision as a joke.

"He (Drew) was a prankster, all right," Allen Prichard said.

Thornton went from Sayre School to Sewanee Military Academy in Tennessee, where he was in ROTC and graduated in May 1962. After one semester at the University of Kentucky, he entered the Army and became a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division.

According to information provided last week by Lusk Funeral Home in Paris, but which could not be independently confirmed by the Army, Thornton received a Purple Heart and Oak Leaf Cluster for service in the Dominican Republic.

He re-entered UK in the fall of 1966, but was dropped for poor scholastic performance after the spring semester.

In August 1968, Thornton joined the Lexington police department as an officer. During more than eight years of service as a cop, he helped quell campus disturbances at UK, rose from patrol duty to detective work and then took the fateful step of joining the newly formed city-county narcotic squad.

The narc squad's crackdown on drug abuse generated praise and headlines initially, but later, concern about its methods grew among prosecutors and judges as well as local defense lawyers.

Hayette Circuit Judge George Barker, who was commonwealth's attorney at the time, recalled last week that he felt some skepticism about the narcotics unit.

"There were times that you had to wonder whether all this stuff (alleged drug trafficking) was really happening," he said. "It seemed that some of the cases were a little too pat." But Barker said he was making no accusations of wrongdoing by the narcotics unit.

Thornton was later one of three ex-police officers formerly associated with the narc squad who went to jail in what state and federal authorities said was an international drug- and gun-smuggling ring.

In addition, Thornton gained notoriety before he left the police department in early 1977 as the sidekick of fellow narc squad officer William Canan.

Canan, who was regarded as the squad's unofficial leader, eventually became a president of the local Fraternal Order of Police and spearheaded an abortive unionization drive in the department.

In 1979, in a highly publicized disciplinary hearing, the Urban County Council fired Canan for, among other things, insubordination and publicly leveling charges of corruption in the department.

In some respects, however, Thornton's police experience was a boon as well as a bane. If it brought him into contact with questionable characters who later got into trouble, it also focused his ambition and hardened his self-discipline, several friends said.

Thornton resumed his education at Eastern Kentucky University in 1971 and earned a law-enforcement degree two years later.

"He was a good student. It didn't take as much study for him to make good grades," said Truett Ricks, a former professor of Thornton's and the dean of ECU's law-enforcement school.

Unlike many students who were also police officers, Thornton "wouldn't talk about moving up to sergeant" because he didn't plan to remain a policeman, instead intending to become a lawyer, Ricks said.

To win his law degree at UK within only three calendar years (1973-76) while holding down a full-time job, Thornton "did a lot of burning the midnight oil," said former classmate Paul C. VanBooven.

Although Thornton kept largely to himself and "did not talk much about the specifics of his work, he liked to let people know that he was involved in high-level police work and that he was very good at it," said VanBooven, now associate dean of the UK College of Law.

Some fellow police officers, who would not be identified, said last week that Thornton's lifestyle caught their eye because it included the finest cars and clothes.

After leaving the police department, Thornton joined a small law practice in Lexington. Efforts to reach his former law partners last week were unsuccessful.

Thornton's legal career was but a brief chapter in his life. Federal indictments allege that in the late 1970s he joined an extensive drug- and gun-smuggling network headed by former Lexington resident Bradley F. Bryant.

Thornton, an accomplished pilot, was accused in 1981 of flying a plane load of marijuana from South America to Kentucky more than two years earlier. He pleaded no contest to a reduced charge of marijuana-trafficking conspiracy and served five months in the Federal Correctional Institution near Lexington in 1982. His law license was suspended.

Thornton's activities as an ex-con from November 1982 until last week remain unclear.

Stoops, the president of the Thunderbird Sport Parachute Club near Berea, said Thornton in recent years had introduced his girlfriend to skydiving. The two traveled the country "following the big planes," and exactly two weeks

ago they parachuted into a party at Hall's Restaurant on the Kentucky River, Stoops said.

This summer, he added, Thornton completed his certification in the elite sport of "BASE jumping." That meant, Stoops said, that Thornton successfully parachuted from atop skyscrapers, broadcasting towers, bridges and a natural abutment — in his case a cliff in Norway.

"I don't go in for drugs and all that," said Stoops, a former paratrooper in Vietnam. "But Drew and I had basically the same code. He was quiet, he didn't brag. And he believed in an eye for an eye, and that revenge is sweet."

Another part of Thornton's code was a belief that society was crumbling, that only the strong would emerge and that loyalty to friends was life's cardinal rule, several long-time acquaintances said.

"He had this idea that he would build a house totally in the earth, totally protected," said Nola Roeper, a former Lexington radio personality who said she was a frequent companion of Thornton's for about a year in the late 1970s.

"When the big war hit, he would take the people he was close to and that he liked and they would live there," she said. "It was a real survivalist attitude, sort of like a mercenary. That would be his fortress."

Ms. Roeper said Thornton's personality, while charismatic, eventually proved too mercurial for her.

"He had a terrific sense of humor, but he had a temperament on him," she said. "When he was in a good mood, he was an absolutely charming human being, and one of the most generous human beings you'll ever meet. But if he was in a bad mood, it was Katie bar the door."

Thornton's obsession with his physical appearance and with "little spy gadgets and instruments" made him "the closest thing to James Bond I ever met," she said. That aura did not go unnoticed by others.

"Drew had kind of an air about him that he tried to portray," said Ken Heissman, who operates a parachute center in Bardstown that Thornton and several other Lexington lawyers used to frequent. "It made him mysterious and he wanted to be mysterious."

Heissman said he lost Thornton as a customer about two years ago when Thornton became angered by his warnings that risky parachute openings under the standard minimum altitude of 2,000 feet would not be tolerated.

Louisville lawyer Patrick Stallard, a veteran skydiver who went on numerous parachute-club outings with Thornton, said that Thornton liked to scare his mates, who could hardly be called fearful of danger.

Thornton took lots of chances as the pilot of jump planes and as a chutist, said Stallard, who recalled sharing a motel room with Thornton once and seeing him open a briefcase full of weapons and strange instruments.

"He was hellbent on making people feel he would do anything, take any risk and always survive," Stallard said.

Parachutist linked to more drugs

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — The death of a cocaine-laden parachutist and the discovery of more cocaine in Georgia have led investigators closer to indictments in a probe of narcotics smuggling, officials say.

Both incidents last week were among new developments in a U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration investigation that began weeks ago, authorities said yesterday.

The investigation involves "a fair-sized smuggling organization with roots in Colombia," said DEA agent Tony Acri, who declined further comment.

The body of Andrew Carter Thornton II, a former Lexington, Ky., narcotics officer and an experienced parachutist, was found Wednesday in a Knoxville resident's driveway.

Bundles of 77 pounds of cocaine were strapped around Thornton's waist. Authorities said he fell to his death about an hour before a Cessna 404 with no one aboard crashed into a mountain in Clay County, N.C. A key bearing the plane's identification number was found in his pocket. The plane's autopilot was engaged.

A personal address book Thornton carried is offering clues in the investigation, Acri said.

On Saturday, two U.S. Forest Service officers found three black nylon bags with about 220 pounds of cocaine near a meadow in Fannin County, Ga., said Fran Wiley of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The bags were attached to a parachute that hung from a tree, she said.

Georgia authorities linked the find to Thornton.

"The duffel bags had markings on them that were identical to the ones found on the parachutist found in Knoxville," Ms. Wiley said. "You can theorize many things — whether [Thornton] had a ground crew down here, if he was going to pick it up here. We don't have any information on that."

Ms. Wiley said each black bag found in the Chattahoochee National Forest, contained a green duffel bag with "USA 30" imprinted on it. Separate one-kilogram packages had "USA 10" written on them, she said.

Georgia authorities discontinued air searches for more cocaine in the area yesterday. On Saturday and Sunday they flew the same route Thornton would have taken from Knoxville to the Georgia drop-off point, but found no more cocaine, Ms. Wiley said.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Louisville Times

Date:

9/17/85

Edition:

Evening

Title:

Parachutist linked to more drugs

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: OCHS

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(Mount Clipping In Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-7
9/13/85Date: 9/13/85
Edition: EVENINGTitle: OFFICIALS THINK CHUTIST
SET AUTO-PILOT ON PLANE BEFORE
PLUNGING TO DEATHCharacter:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

LS

COPY SENT BUREAU SEP 24 1985

Officials think chutist set auto-pilot on plane before plunging to death

Papers found on body may provide clues

By STEVE BAKER

Associated Press

Investigators are confident that a downed airplane in North Carolina belonged to a cocaine smuggler from Kentucky who parachuted to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., but they still don't know if he was working alone.

"We've pretty much determined that it was his plane. We don't know, though, if he was flying alone," Capt. Stan Bullen, head of Knoxville's Organized Crime Unit, said yesterday.

The parachutist, identified as Andrew Carter Thornton II, 40, of Paris, Ky., was linked to the downed plane by a key found on him. Numbers on the key match those on the plane's tail, police said.

Thornton, with approximately 77 pounds of cocaine tied to him, died Wednesday when his reserve chute failed to slow him sufficiently. Officials think Thornton never tried to open his main chute because it was much larger and more likely to be spotted. Dr. Robert Lash, a medical examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration, said Thornton died

of a lacerated aorta, suffered when he landed on the cocaine and broke several ribs. The cocaine has been valued at \$14 million to \$20 million.

Authorities theorize that Thornton set the plane on auto-pilot before jumping. The twin-engine Cessna 404 crashed into the rugged mountains of the Nantahala National Forest 60 miles south of Knoxville.

Clay County, N. C., Sheriff Tony Woody said evidence he found at the wreckage suggested the pilot bailed out and took all of his cargo with him.

"There were no bodies, no blood, no luggage, no clothing, no nothing. And the seat belts were unfastened. It looks like he just set it on automatic pilot and jumped," Woody said.

DEA assistant special agent Tony Aciri in Atlanta said investigators still hope to determine what Thornton planned to do in Knoxville.

Aciri thinks Thornton had a contact waiting for him in Knoxville. "He parachuted in to bring that stuff to someone," Aciri said, adding that a cocaine delivery that large was probably headed for other areas.

"We have some documents [found on Thornton's body] that may possibly be fruitful," Aciri said. "We do have some leads, but where they take us, we don't know."

Bullen said Thornton was carrying several papers in a coat pocket, including his passport.

He also was wearing a bulletproof vest and was carrying two pistols, a stiletto, special night-vision goggles, several compasses, liquid vitamins, dehydrated food, about \$4,500 in cash, six gold krugerrands and identification papers in at least two names, investigators said.

Officials have not determined to whom the plane was registered. The FAA's last registry was with Opex Aviation Inc. of Santa Paula, Calif. But an Opex official, Graham But-

ler, said the plane, which could fly 2,000 miles without refueling, had been sold two months ago.

Airplane broker Ron Schmidt of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., said he sold the Cessna on Monday to a company he identified as Key Air of Miami. But there was no Key Air listed in the Miami telephone directory. Schmidt said a young pilot, whom he could not identify, picked up the plane for Key Air.

Thornton was known to be an accomplished parachutist and pilot. The FAA said he had a commercial pilot's license and was rated to fly by instruments alone. Thornton was a decorated paratrooper, a veteran of the 82nd Airborne Division.

Between 1968 and 1977, he was a police officer in Lexington, Ky., and spent three years in the narcotics division. He quit after obtaining a law degree from the University of Kentucky.

He was indicted in 1981 for allegedly flying a plane into South America for a reputed drug ring operating as "The Company." The charges were reduced to a misdemeanor marijuana count to which Thornton pleaded no contest in 1982. He was paroled after serving five months in prison and his law license was suspended by the Kentucky Bar Association.

Thornton's survivors include his parents, Carter and Margaret Cummins Thornton of Bourbon County; a brother, Timothy, also of Bourbon County; and a sister, Margaret Thornton Buckley of Lexington.

A graveside funeral will be at 10 a.m. tomorrow at Paris Cemetery. Lusk Funeral Home in Paris is in charge of arrangements.

Friends may contribute to the United States Parachute Association, 1440 Duke St., Alexandria, Va. 22314.

12-303-19

Thornton's drug cargo might have exceeded the 75 pounds found

By **WILLIAM KEESLER**
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Former Lexington police officer Andrew Carter Thornton II may have dropped off a load of cocaine before he parachuted to his death Wednesday while carrying about 75 pounds of the drug, federal officials said yesterday.

A further twist in the story developed yesterday as more of the history of the plane became known, including its stops in three African countries.

Tony Aciri, a spokesman for the federal Drug Enforcement Administration's Atlanta office, said a DEA office in another section of the country has learned that the Cessna 404 from which Thornton, 40, is believed to have jumped may have been carrying more than the estimated \$15 million worth of cocaine found with his body. How much more is not known, he said.

"We don't know if he dropped it at a pre-arranged point so that someone else could pick it up, or if he

planned to come back and pick it up himself, or what he was trying to do," Aciri said.

"There's a good possibility if he dumped it on target it's gone," he said. "If he missed the target, they could have missed it too."

Aciri said the information on the second shipment was culled from "the players" in a scheme to import the cocaine from South America to Tennessee.

He said the investigation has been aided by a book of names and telephone numbers found on Thornton's body.

"This list is interesting reading," he said. "We hope it ferrets out where the drug came from and how he planned to get rid of it."

While the Knoxville area is considered the most likely place for such a drop, it "could have been anywhere from Colombia, South America, to up there," he said.

Investigators also said yesterday

See OFFICIALS

Back page, col. 1, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-1

Date: 9/14/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: THORNTON'S DRUG CARGO
MIGHT HAVE EXCEEDED THE 75
POUNDS FOUND

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LS

Indexing:

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Continued from Page One

that Colombia is the most likely source of Thornton's drug shipment, although they do not yet know for sure.

Acri said agents have used airplanes to trace the probable route of Thornton's flight in a search for dropoff points without success.

He said investigators, who conducted a ground search Wednesday of the area where Thornton's body was found, would search the general area again, but broaden the territory to be covered.

Thornton, a former Lexington police officer and lawyer, was killed early Wednesday while parachuting into a residential neighborhood near Knoxville's Downtown Island Home Airport.

His body was found atop an Army duffel bag full of cocaine.

In his pocket were the keys to the twin-engine Cessna that crashed about 1:15 a.m. — with no one aboard — about 60 miles south of Knoxville in the North Carolina mountains.

Clay County (N.C.) Sheriff Tony Woody said yesterday that the plane had been set on automatic pilot while flying at 8,400 feet. It crashed, Acri said, after running out of fuel.

The plane would have had a maximum fuel capacity of 348 gallons when it was manufactured in 1979, according to Cessna Aircraft Co. in Wichita, Kan.

Acri said that during an inspection

of the wreckage Thursday, investigators found no evidence that extra fuel tanks had been installed.

But James Oliver, a Fort Lauderdale, Fla., pilot who tested the plane Monday, said auxiliary tanks had been added — one in the nose and four in sections of the wings normally used for storage.

Oliver said the extra tanks would have given the plane a total capacity of at least 450 gallons.

At 348 gallons, the plane could fly up to 2,000 miles without refueling, said Graham Butler, co-owner of an international aircraft dealership in California that sold the plane in late June.

The extra 102 gallons would have extended the craft's range to about 2,500 miles, Butler said.

"It's a very long-range airplane," he said.

The plane could easily have flown from Colombia to Knoxville without refueling, Acri said.

The aircraft has an intriguing history — made mysterious by the fact that part of its life has been spent overseas. The Federal Aviation Administration does not keep track of foreign sales.

According to FAA records in Oklahoma City, it was released by Cessna in 1979 and shipped to the African nation of Gabon in mid-1979.

Butler said it was sold by a Cessna distributor in Gabon to a buyer — possibly a government official — in Nigeria.

After a military coup in Nigeria, it was returned to Gabon and sold to W. G. Andrews, a resident of Zimbabwe, Butler said.

On Nov. 21, 1984, Andrews sold it to Butler's company, OPEX Aviation Inc. of Santa Paula, Calif., FAA records show.

Butler said he sold it to a dealership in Shreveport, La. — Shreveport Aircraft Sales — in late June.

Officials of Shreveport Aircraft could not be reached late yesterday.

Oliver acknowledged yesterday that his company, Southaire Inc., had attempted to sell the plane for a Shreveport dealership, which he declined to name.

Another airplane broker, whom he did not name, sold the plane to a company called Key Air of Miami, and Monday, Southaire turned the craft over to a pilot who said he was with a local ferry service and would deliver the plane to nearby Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Oliver said.

He said the pilot presented documentation for the sale and that his credentials were confirmed by telephone.

Acri said Key Air is apparently a bogus corporation, with no telephone listing in Miami or Fort Lauderdale.

Investigators are reviewing documents for the transaction between Southaire and Key Air to try to determine how the plane ended up on the North Carolina mountainside.

Acri also said authorities were searching for accomplices in the scheme, but no suspects have been identified.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10-3-85

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (12G-738)
 FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303) (P)
 RE: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
 NARCOTICS MATTER (G)
 OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Louisville telcall to SA [] Atlanta
 Division, dated 10-3-85:

For information of Atlanta, on 10-3-85, []
 [] Detective, Ashland, Kentucky, Police Department,
 provided the following information:

[] stated that on 9-14-85, while at the Greene
 County Skydiving Center, Xenia, Ohio, he observed the
 airplane which was involved in the fatal crash on 9-28-85.

[] stated that the plane had fuel difficulty on
 this date; and, that he overheard that the fuel was con-
 taminated and fresh fuel had to be obtained from a nearby
 airport.

[] stated that he recognized the airplane from
 newspaper photos; and, that he took several photos of
 the plane himself.

2 - Atlanta
 2 - Louisville
 CLH/clh
 (4)

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

Searched 12-303-22
 Serialized cd
 Indexed cd

L 0000 2772123Z

FM AT XX

DE L

Z 042105Z OCT 85

FM LOUISVILLE (120-303) (P)

TO ATLANTA ROUTINE

KNOXVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THOMSON, II; NARCOTIC MATTER; (CO: L)

INVESTIGATION LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, INDICATED THAT A 1984
ONE ENGINE AIRCRAFT, TAIL NUMBER N3935D WAS GATED UP AT THE
BLUEGRASS AIRPORT AT THE VANDUEN FACILITY IN THE GENERAL AVIATION
AREA ON 8/14/85. A RECEIPT FOR THIS WAS FOUND DURING THE SEARCH
OF SUBJECT'S RESIDENCE ON 9/11/85.

RECORDS REFLECT THAT THE AIRCRAFT IS REGISTERED TO DAVID L.
WILLIAMS, 3651 IVY ROAD, NORTHEAST, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, ON A 1984
ONE ENGINE FOUR SEAT AIRCRAFT. A REVIEW OF THE RECORDS AT
LEXINGTON REFLECT THAT THE AIRCRAFT IS NOT PARKED OR HAS IT RECENTLY
BEEN PARKED AT THE BLUEGRASS AIRPORT.

LEAD KNOXVILLE DIVISION AT KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE. WILL

12-303-25

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

PAGE TWO DE L 009 UNCL A

ADVISE LOCAL GENERAL AVIATION AREA, DETERMINE IF THE ABOVE RE CRIBED
AIRCRAFT IS AT OR WAS AT A KNOXVILLE AIRPORT EITHER NOW OR THE
PERIOD 9/14-11/85. IT IS NOTED THAT ATLANTA HAS ADVISED THAT THE
AIRCRAFT HAS NOT BEEN FOUND.

BT

009

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription September 25, 1985

[redacted] (protect identity by request), [redacted]
[redacted] Telephone Number [redacted]
voluntarily appeared at the Evansville Office of the Federal
Bureau of Investigation and provided the following information:

b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

In talking in general terms, with no known association
to THORNTON, [redacted] stated that THORNTON had another
associate who [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

[redacted] stated that
he became aware of these rumors due to the fact that while
[redacted]

Investigation on 9/13/85 at Evansville, Indiana File # IP 12G-
LS 12G-303
by SA [redacted] -jae Date dictated 9/18/85

b6
b7C

IP 12G-

b6
b7C
b7D

Continuation of interview of [REDACTED]

9/13/85 , Page 2

[REDACTED] noted that the type of airplane that THORNTON parachuted out of would be a difficult plane to jump from and felt that the door of the plane would have had to have been disposed of prior to jumping, and that would be a very difficult door to open and jump from, especially if there was only one individual on the plane.

b6
b7C
b7D

X AIRTEL

9/27/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)
FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (12G-NEW) (RUC)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: Louisville

Enclosed for Louisville and Knoxville are two copies
each of an FD-302 reflecting interview of [REDACTED]
on 9/13/85.

For information of Louisville and Knoxville, on 9/13/85,
[REDACTED] (protect identity by request), [REDACTED]

Since no further investigation is to be conducted
by Indianapolis Division, Indianapolis considering this
case RUC'd.

- ② - Louisville (Enc. 2) *DM*
2 - Knoxville (12G-377) (Enc. 2)
1 - Indianapolis

TLP-jae
(5)

- 1* -

12-303-27
cc

OCT

DM

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

memorandum

DATE: 10-8-85

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

IA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

SUBJECT:

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LOUISVILLE

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303) (P)

On 10-8-85, [REDACTED] (protect), who is employed at the
[REDACTED] telephone

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] provided the following information:

b6
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] requested that if he was to be contacted, to do so
at his employment.

b6
b7C
b7D

2 - Louisville
CLH/clh
(2)

12-303-28
Ca Ca
8

VZCZCHQ0092
PP HQ CI CO KX LS NY

DE AT

P 070000Z OCT 85

FM ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQ 8)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

CINCINNATI PRIORITY

COLUMBIA PRIORITY

KNOXVILLE PRIORITY

LOUISVILLE PRIORITY

NEW YORK PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

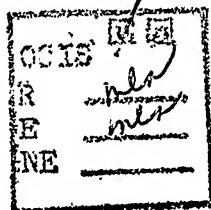
ATTENTION GENERAL PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION, ORGANIZED CRIME/

NARCOTICS SECTION, FBI LABORATORY, ATTENTION SSA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
"CHANGED"; DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC,
SERIAL NUMBER 208-00017, SEPTEMBER 29, 1985, JENKINSBURG,
GEORGIA; DAMV; NARCOTICS.

TITLE MARKED CHANGED TO SET FORTH CORRECT TAIL NUMBER
OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT.



12-203-29
ca ca

THJ

PAGE TWO AT (149A-703) UNCLAS

REFERENCE ATLANTA TEL CALL TO DAYTON RA, OCTOBER 4, 1985; DAYTON TEL CALL TO ATLANTA, OCTOBER 4, 1985; AND DAYTON RA TEL CALL TO ATLANTA, OCTOBER 7, 1985.

FOR INFORMATION OF NEW YORK AND COLUMBIA, CAPTIONED MATTER CONCERNS THE CRASH OF A CESSNA 208 CARAVAN, WHICH OCCURRED IN BUTTS COUNTY, GEORGIA, AND AS A RESULT OF WHICH 16 PARACHUTISTS AND THE PILOT WERE KILLED. INVESTIGATION OF THE CRASH BY THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD HAS REVEALED THAT SUGAR WAS IN THE PLANE'S FUEL SYSTEM, AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION HAS LINKED DAVID LEE WILLIAMS, AKA COWBOY, THE OWNER OF THE CESSNA, WHO DIED IN THE CRASH, WITH ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, WHO DIED ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, IN KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, WHEN HIS PARACHUTE FAILED TO OPEN FOLLOWING HIS JUMP FROM THE AIRPLANE WHICH LATER CRASHED. STRAPPED TO THORNTON'S BODY WAS APPROXIMATELY 75 POUNDS OF COCAINE. SOURCE INFORMATION HAS REVEALED THAT

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SOURCE INFORMATION HAS FURTHER INDICATED

THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

PAGE THREE AT (149A-703) UNCLAS

b7D

A SEARCH OF WILLIAMS PERSONAL PAPERS HAS REVEALED THAT WILLIAMS PURCHASED A TICKET FOR REUBIN SOTO ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, ON DELTA FLIGHT 710, WHICH DEPARTED ATLANTA AT 8:36PM, BOUND FOR LA GUARDIA AIRPORT. FURTHER INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT SOTO ARRIVED IN ATLANTA AT 10:41 A.M., ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1985, ON A FLIGHT THAT ORIGINATED FROM LA GUARDIA. WILLIAMS PAID FOR SOTO'S SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, TICKET WITH HIS AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD. LISTED IN WILLIAMS PERSONAL TELEPHONE BOOK WAS THE FOLLOWING:

RUBEN SOTO (718) 782-1660. ATLANTA BELIEVES THAT WILLIAMS

PAGE FOUR AT (149A-703) UNCLAS

PICKED SOTO UP AT THE ATLANTA AIRPORT ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1985. AND RETURNED HIM TO THE AIRPORT AND BOUGHT HIS RETURN TICKET ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985. NONE OF WILLIAMS ATLANTA ASSOCIATES ARE FAMILIAR WITH REUBEN SOTO, AND IT IS SPECULATED THAT HE MAY HAVE BEEN IN ATLANTA TO TRANSPORT COCAINE FOR WILLIAMS AND THORNTON.

REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALLS ESTABLISHED THAT FOUR DRUMS OF FUEL WERE LEFT AT XENIA, OHIO, AIRPORT, SUBSEQUENT TO A CONTAMINATION PROBLEM WITH CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT ON SEPTEMBER 13, AND 14, 1985. THREE WERE TRADED TO AN UNKNOWN MECHANIC, AND DAYTON IS IN THE PROCESS OF LOCATING THEM. ONE DRUM WAS LEFT, WAS EMPTIED INTO THREE CANS, AND BEING MAINTAINED BY [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] XENIA, OHIO.

FOR INFORMATION OF COLUMBIA, INVESTIGATION AT ATLANTA HAS DETERMINED THAT [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] ON OR ABOUT SEPTEMBER 26, 1985, DETERMINED, AS PART OF A PRE-LEASE CHECK OUT, THAT CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT HAD A FUEL CONTAMINATION PROBLEM.

REQUEST OF FBI LABORATORY: FBI LABORATORY IS REQUESTED,

PAGE FIVE AT (149A-703) UNCLAS

THROUGH COORDINATION WITH SA [REDACTED] DAYTON RA, TO OBTAIN
SAMPLES OF CONTAMINATED FUEL FROM XENIA, OHIO, AND CONDUCT
SAME EXAMINATION AS IS BEING CONDUCTED ON FUEL SAMPLES
FROM JENKINSBURG, GEORGIA.

b6
b7C

COLUMBIA DIVISION AT CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA: INTERVIEW
[REDACTED] REGARDING TYPE AND AMOUNT OF CONTAMINATION
HE OBSERVED, AND WHAT STEPS HE TOOK ONCE HE OBSERVED SAME.

b6
b7C

CINCINNATI DIVISION AT XENIA, OHIO: CONTACT [REDACTED]
AT [REDACTED] REGARDING THE IDENTITY OF THE
TWO OTHER PILOTS WHO WERE CONTRACTED TO FLY THE WEEKEND
OF SEPTEMBER 13-14, 1985. ATLANTA HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT
WILLIAMS WAS TO HAVE THE SOLE CONTRACT FOR THE JUMP, AND
THAT TWO OTHER PILOTS WERE CONTRACTED FOR, THEN CANCELLED,
WHEN WILLIAMS BECAME AVAILABLE. INTERVIEW PILOTS IN DEPTH,
REGARDING EXISTENCE OF THE PRIOR CONTRACT, AND THEIR
WHEREABOUTS FROM SEPTEMBER 12 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 15, 1985.

b6
b7C

NEW YORK DIVISION AT BROOKLYN-QUEENS: LOCATE AND
INTERVIEW REUBEN SOTO CONCERNING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF WILLIAMS
AND THORNTONS COCAINE TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES. ADDITIONALLY,
DETERMINE FROM SOTO WHY HE WAS IN ATLANTA ON SEPTEMBER 10-

b6
b7C

PGE SIX AT (149A-703) UNCLAS

SEPTEMBER 11, 1985. QUESTION SOTO THOROUGHLY REGARDING ANDREW THORNTON AND DAVID WILLIAMS. ALSO QUESTION SOTO REGARDING HIS KNOWLEDGE OF [REDACTED] WHO WERE ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING WITH THORNTON. ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE WHETHER SOTO HAS ANY INFORMATION REGARDING THE SABOTAGE OF WILLIAMS AIRCRAFT, CONDUCT LOCAL CRIMINAL AND INTELLIGENT CHECKS ON SOTO AND FORWARD A PHOTOGRAPH OF HIM TO ATLANTA.

DUE TO THE HIGH PRIORITY OF THIS INVESTIGATION, IT IS REQUESTED THAT ALL OFFICES SUTEL RESULTS.

BT

b6
b7C

Sugar found in fuel of plane that crashed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal investigators have discovered sugar in the fuel system of a plane that crashed in Georgia last weekend, raising the possibility that sabotage was involved in the death of the pilot and 16 members of a parachute club.

The National Transportation Safety Board emphasized that the source of the sugar is not known. It asked the FBI for assistance yesterday in determining how the sugar got into the fuel system.

The single-engine Cessna 208 Caravan crashed on a private air-trip Sunday near Jenkinsburg, Ga., killing all aboard. Investigators believe the aircraft, which crashed shortly after takeoff, may also have been overloaded.

The safety board disclosed earlier that the Federal Aviation Administration had grounded the plane two days before the crash when an FAA inspector at the Fulton County Airport in Atlanta observed fuel contamination.

At the time it was not known what contaminated the fuel, which had "the color of black coffee" instead of the normal amber color, safety board Chairman Jim Burnett said. Sugar contamination would make the fuel dark, investigators say.

Pranksters and vandals long have known that sugar poured into a gas tank will ruin an internal combustion engine.

Ira Furman, a safety board spokesman, said a preliminary analysis of the fuel filter found in the wreckage "indicates the presence of sugar," although investigators have not determined how or when the substance got into the fuel system.

Maintenance workers who examined the plane last Thursday noticed the fuel was discolored.

Although an FAA inspector grounded the plane the next day, its owner flew the aircraft to the parachute center in Jenkinsburg, about 50 miles south of Atlanta, investigators said.

"The board has asked for the assistance of the FBI in the investigation, although the board will continue to look at the aviation-safety issues present in this accident," Furman said.

Meanwhile, William Whitley, supervisor of the FBI's narcotics division in Atlanta, said the FBI was "interested in one guy" on the plane, but he would not identify him.

The Atlanta Constitution quoted unidentified sources in today's editions as saying the FBI was investigating a "possible link" between David Lee Williams, 35, of Atlanta, the plane's owner who was killed in the crash, and Andrew Thornton, who parachuted to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 11.

Thornton, 40, of Paris, Ky., was found with 75 pounds of cocaine in a duffel bag strapped to his waist.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-6

Date: 10/03/85
Edition: EVENING

Title: SUGAR FOUND IN FUEL OF PLANE THAT CRASHED

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

Indexing:

12-303-30

COPY SENT BUREAU 10-9-85

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
OCT 9 1985	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

126-303

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PGE A-3

Date: 10/04/85

Edition: EVENING

Title: PAPER LINKS DRUG DEAL,
SABOTAGE OF PLANE

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

Indexing:

Paper links drug deal, sabotage of plane

Associated Press

MACON, Ga. — Federal authorities believe revenge for a cocaine theft led to sabotage of an Atlanta real-estate developer's airplane, causing the crash that killed him and 16 others on a skydive outing, a newspaper reported.

The FBI said yesterday that the developer, David L. Williams, 35, knew Andrew C. Thornton, who plunged to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., last month after parachuting from a plane with 75 pounds of cocaine strapped to his waist.

Thornton was a former Lexington, Ky., narcotics officer and attorney.

Williams was a former resident of Park Hill in northern Kentucky. Both had attended the University of Kentucky.

"There was a sizable amount [of cocaine] skimmed from the shipment going to Tennessee," The Macon Telegraph and News, quoting an unidentified source familiar with the investigation, reported today.

The crash of Williams' plane Sunday near Jenkinsburg "was a revenge-type thing," the source said. "It was sabotage. Somebody was targeted for termination."

"The sabotage was something that had to do with a payback. And it went too slow or what have you."

The Telegraph and News said that, asked if the target was Williams, the source replied, "Who owned the plane and who is dead?"

The plane crashed moments after takeoff from the West Wind Sport Parachute Club airstrip, about 50 miles south of Atlanta.

The National Transportation Safety Board called in the FBI on Wednesday after finding sugar in a fuel filter of Williams' Cessna 208 Caravan.

The FBI had been investigating the relationship between Williams and Thornton before the crash, but FBI officials would not say if they think the two men, described as good friends who went on parachute jumps together, were also involved in drugs together.

"We're looking at this from a sabotage aspect," FBI agent Ed Horge said. "We're not into any drug situation."

Shortly after Thornton's death, au-

thorities found a parachute and three duffel bags of cocaine hanging from a tree in Fannin County, Ga. near the Tennessee border.

A few days later, authorities found a bag containing clothes, food maps and books in a pond near where Williams' plane took off Sunday. One of the books was marked with the number of the plane at which authorities believe Thornton abandoned over Knoxville.

The plane apparently had been set on automatic pilot. It crashed in the mountains near Knoxville.

126-303-31

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 9 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU

Chutist's book reported to hold familiar names

By **WILLIAM KEESLER**
and **RICHARD WILSON**
Courier-Journal Staff Writers

LEXINGTON, Ky. — A book of names found on the body of drug smuggler Andrew C. Thornton II includes some that "are familiar ... within the Lexington-Louisville area," a federal drug investigator said yesterday.

Kelly Snyder, head of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Kentucky, also said that he expects indictments for importing and distributing drugs will be issued in the next month or so, probably in Knoxville, Tenn.

Snyder said that two of the names in the book are of people, who along with Thornton, had been under investigation by the DEA for about six weeks before Thornton's death last week.

Federal investigators have not released any of the names or telephone numbers contained in the book.

Snyder said some of the names were of "people like doctors, lawyers or businessmen." They do not include any politicians or representatives of the horse industry, he said.

Thornton, 40, a former Lexington police officer and lawyer who was

convicted in a marijuana-trafficking conspiracy in 1982, was killed last week when he parachuted into Knoxville with about 75 pounds of cocaine.

Since Thornton's death, authorities have linked him to an additional 220 pounds of cocaine discovered in a north Georgia forest; pilot's manuals, clothing and food dropped on a south Georgia farm; and a plane that crashed with no one aboard in the North Carolina mountains.

The total value of the recovered cocaine is estimated at more than \$70 million.

Snyder's comments came yesterday during a taping of a Lexington television program called "Your Government."

Snyder said he did not know how many names were in Thornton's book, but not all of them are suspects in the DEA investigation.

"The book pinpoints certain names to some that we're familiar with and some that we weren't," he said. He said he assumes that some of the names were only social acquaintances of Thornton's.

Snyder also said that DEA officials kept track of Thornton's where-

See **BOOK**

PAGE 3, col. 2, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE B-1

Date: **9/21/85**
Edition: **MORNING**

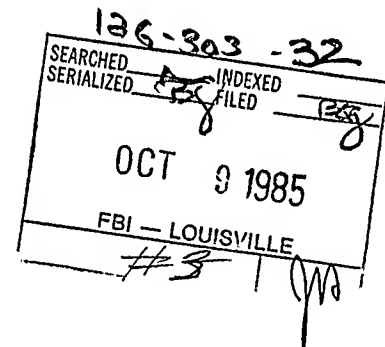
Title: **CHUTIST'S BOOK REPORTED
TO HOLD FAMILIAR NAMES**

Character:
or

Classification:
Submitting Office:

LS

Indexing:



COPY SENT BUREAU 10-9-85

Continued from Page B 1

abouts since he was released from the Federal Correctional Institution near Lexington in November 1982.

He served five months of a six-month sentence, was fined \$5,000 and was placed on five years' probation after pleading no contest to the misdemeanor charge of conspiring to smuggle marijuana.

But Snyder said it wasn't until about six weeks ago, when officials received information that he did not disclose, that an actual investigation of Thornton began.

"We were conducting our own investigation into Mr. Thornton and other members of what we considered part of his organization," Snyder said.

Law-enforcement agencies in Lexington and Louisville are assisting authorities in Tennessee, Georgia and other states in investigating Thornton's cocaine-smuggling attempt.

Lt. Jerry Day, head of the Knoxville Metro Police Department's narcotics squad, said yesterday that the Kentucky officers are helping trace names and telephone numbers in the book found on Thornton's body Sept. 11.

And the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force in Lexington, a project involving investigators from several federal, state and local law-enforcement agencies, also is working on the case, a task force official said.

The task force operates out of the office of Louis DeFalaise, U.S. attorney for Kentucky's Eastern District. DeFalaise said yesterday that he could not comment on whether the task force is involved in the investigation.

However, a task force official, who asked that he not be identified because he is not authorized to speak publicly, confirmed its involvement.

"We are fully cooperating with investigators in other jurisdictions," he said.

The task force, established as part of a national drug-enforcement effort in 1983, includes one officer from each of five agencies — the Lexington-Fayette County police, the Kentucky State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the DEA and the Internal Revenue Service.

The investigators work out of a special room within DeFalaise's office and are supervised by an attorney on DeFalaise's staff.

A similar task force for the Western District operates out of Louisville. Alexander Taft, U.S. Attorney for that district, refused to say yesterday whether his area's task force is involved in the investigation.

The investigation is apparently international in scope. DEA agents have said that South America is a likely source for the cocaine and that Caribbean islands were a possible stopping point for the smuggling.

Snyder's and Day's comments yesterday provided the first significant

indications of Kentucky's importance in the investigation.

Day, who would not provide details, said police in Lexington and Louisville are helping Knoxville officers check a list of at least 50 of the names and telephone numbers found on Thornton.

Asked how many of the names and numbers are from Kentucky, Day said, "I'm really not sure. I'm sure there will be quite a few ... since that was his (Thornton's) home base."

Knoxville police have said "three or four" of the names and numbers are from the Knoxville area.

They also have said many of the numbers do not have area codes. That could mean that many people on the list shared the 606 area code that covers Lexington, Thornton's home, and Eastern Kentucky.

When Thornton was convicted on the marijuana charge in 1982, he had been linked to an international drug-smuggling ring that also traded in high-technology U.S. military equipment that was stolen, according to federal indictments.

The ring included several former Lexington police officers and other Kentuckians and was allegedly masterminded by Lexington native Bradley Bryant, indictments said.

Bryant was convicted of selling 804 pounds of marijuana to undercover police in 1981 and of marijuana-smuggling conspiracy, fraud and embezzlement in 1982.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUSSLVILLE, KY., PAGEDate: 9/23/85
Edition: MORNINGTitle: ABOUT 50 FEET MADE THE
DIFFERENCE IN SMUGGLER'S
DEATH, SKYDIVER SAYSCharacter:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS

About 50 feet made the difference in smuggler's death, skydiver says

By WILLIAM KEESLER
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

A margin of 20 to 50 feet is apparently all that prevented a former Lexington narcotics officer from parachuting safely into Knoxville, Tenn., earlier this month and disappearing into the darkness with 75 pounds of cocaine.

Rick Snow, a Maryville, Tenn., skydiver and forensic anthropology student who has advised Knoxville police on Andrew Carter Thornton's fatal Sept. 11 jump, said "there's no question that another 50 feet," and possibly as little as 20 additional feet, would have saved the convicted drug smuggler.

"I think he was very close to walking away from it," Snow said.

Snow, a former Atlanta policeman, believes Thornton hit the ground just a few seconds after his chute opened, before it had time to slow him down sufficiently for a safe landing.

Thornton may have misjudged the altitude, he said.

Snow's comments provide the most authoritative explanation to date of why Thornton, a former Army paratrooper and avid sport hunter, was unable to make the jump safely.

While a host of mysteries continue to cloud the bizarre incident, including the origin and destination of the drugs, Thornton's death has been particularly troubling for Kentucky skydivers who frequently parachuted with him for fun.

Because most area skydivers knew of Thornton's 1982 conviction for conspiracy to smuggle marijuana, they weren't surprised he might again be involved with drugs, according to Dick Stoops, president of the Thunderbird Sport Parachute Club in Richmond.

"We are surprised," Stoops said, that he wasn't able to survive the loggone jump."

Dr. Robert F. Lash, a medical examiner in Knoxville for the Federal Aviation Administration, is preparing a report on the accident. But it isn't complete, and last week Lash refused to discuss what it might say.

Based on information from Snow, police, and Thornton's autopsy, this much is known about the accident:

Thornton bailed out of a Cessna 404 over Knoxville about 1 or 2 a.m. on Sept. 11.

It was a clear night with variable winds blowing at 3 to 5 miles per hour.

Thornton may have jumped at 8,400 feet above sea level (about 7,570 feet off the ground), since that is the automatic-pilot setting on a plane that crashed early that morning, with no one aboard, in the nearby North Carolina mountains. The key to the plane was found in Thornton's pocket.

Thornton, wearing special goggles for night vision, was carrying a 3½-foot-long Army duffel bag full of cocaine on his left side. It was tied around his waist with a 10- to 15-foot rope.

On his right side, he was carrying a knapsack filled with dehydrated food and other supplies. His parachute rig was on his back.

He also was wearing a bullet-proof vest and carrying two pistols, a sur-

126-303-33

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 9 1985	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

#3

COPY SENT BUREAU 10-9-85

...time, a smetto, about \$4,000 in cash and six gold krugerrand coins.

He was found dead about seven hours later, lying on his back in a graveled area outside a home in a residential neighborhood near Knoxville's small Downtown Island Airport.

His arms were stretched over his head, and the ripcord was clutched in his right hand. Lying horizontally under his knees, which were raised, was the bag of cocaine. Near his feet were two shallow 1- to 2-foot scrape marks in the gravel.

His main parachute was still in the pack. His reserve chute was on the ground 10 to 15 feet in front of his feet.

Lash said Thornton landed on his back on the cocaine, fracturing his spine and most of the ribs on his right side, and rupturing his aorta, the main artery carrying blood from the heart. There also were bruises and abrasions on the backs of his legs.

Thornton lived at least two minutes after he hit the ground, Lash said.

Snow said Thornton apparently landed just as he was coming out of opening shock, the powerful jolt a skydiver receives when the parachute opens.

Snow said the chute opened fully, but did not have time to decelerate Thornton to 15-feet-a-second or less, the desired speed for a comfortable landing.

Thornton apparently landed on his heels, which skidded out from under him, Snow said. Then he fell back onto the cocaine bag and the gravel.

Snow said Thornton may have thought he was still 1,000 feet off the ground when he hit. Since his plane was last seen in Miami, two days before the accident, his altimeter could have been set for jumping at sea level. But the elevation in Knoxville, in mountainous eastern Tennessee, was about 832 feet.

Snow said that also could account for why Thornton ended up in the residential area instead of his more likely targets — Downtown Island Airport, just a half-mile away, or a field at the Tennessee School for the Deaf, just 300 yards away. By opening the chute higher, Thornton could easily have guided it to either place.

Bob Boswell, a Bardstown skydiver, said Thornton may have purposely waited until he was low to deploy his parachute.

He had a reputation among sport jumpers for waiting until he was well below the standard minimum altitude of 2,000 feet to pull his ripcord. Police also have speculated that Thornton wanted a low opening to avoid being seen.

Snow said it is possible that Thornton pulled the ripcord early, but that the chute took much longer than normal to open fully. The fact that the pilot chute that activates the reserve chute was found a quarter-mile from the landing site supports that scenario.

Records indicated Thornton had not had the chute repacked in at least six months, Snow said. The FAA requires that reserve chutes be repacked every four months because normal wear and tear can affect their performance.

But Snow, who examined Thornton's gear at Knoxville police head-

quarters, said it "was in perfect working condition, from everything I saw."

Probably the greatest mystery about the fatal jump is why Thornton, according to all the evidence, made no attempt to open his main parachute.

Stoops hypothesized that Thornton was unable to reach the pilot chute for the main chute because he got entangled in all the baggage he was carrying. But Snow said there was nothing to indicate that.

Snow said Thornton may have thought his reserve chute would open more quickly and more reliably at the low altitude.

Other skydivers, who had not heard Snow's opinion, suggested several other possible causes for the accident last week. All, however, emphasized that their theories were strictly guesswork, since they had not studied the scene firsthand.

King Morton of Livingston, Tenn., southern conference director of the U.S. Parachute Association, said the 200-pound Thornton, the 75 pounds of drugs and the equipment he was carrying may together have been too heavy for the parachute. Snow, however, said the chute's 265-foot canopy should have been enough to handle the weight.

Kenn Hiesmann, president of the Green County Sport Parachute Center in Bardstown, said Thornton's chute could have gone into a stall, throwing him violently to the ground. But stalls usually occur while a chute is being steered, and Thornton had not unstowed the parachute brakes — a necessary first step to steering.

Because of the many variables involved, exactly what occurred may never be determined.

"You can visualize 10 to 15 things that might have happened, but just two people know for sure," Knoxville police Detective Bob Summitt said. "One's gone, and the good Lord probably won't be telling us."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, K.Y., PAGE A-3

Date: 9/21/85

Edition: EVENING

Title: DRUG AGENTS WERE INVESTIGATING THORNTON, OTHERS BEFORE HIS DEATH

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

Drug agents were investigating Thornton, others before his death

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Federal authorities had been investigating Andrew Carter Thornton II and two people whose names were found in a book on Thornton's body when he died last week, an official said.

Thornton, 40, a former Lexington narcotics officer and lawyer, fell to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., with about 77 pounds of cocaine. He had two parachutes, one of which had been deployed.

Some of the names in the book "are familiar ... within the Lexington-Louisville area," said Kelly Snyder, Kentucky chief of the Drug Enforcement Administration. The names have not been released.

Snyder, speaking on WLEX-TV's "Your Government" program, said some of the names were of "people like doctors, lawyers or businessmen."

Since Thornton's death, authorities have linked him to 220 pounds of cocaine found in northern Georgia,

items found on a Georgia farm, and a plane that crashed with no one aboard in North Carolina.

Snyder said he did not know how many names were in the book, and said not all are suspects in the investigation.

The DEA had kept track of Thornton after he was released from the Federal Correctional Institution near Lexington in 1982. He had served five months of a six-month sentence for marijuana smuggling.

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#3

COPY SENT BUREAU 10-9-85

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE B-5

Date: 9/19/85

Edition: EVENING

Title: DEA AGENTS X TRYING TO
PUT TOGETHER PIECES OF EVIDENCE IN COCAINE CASE

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

DEA agents trying to put together pieces of evidence in cocaine case

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Investigators are "doing a lot of legwork" to piece together evidence left by a parachutist suspected of smuggling almost 300 pounds of cocaine before he died, a federal drug agent says.

The latest clues come from a pilot's handbook, clothes and maps of Jamaica found in a central Georgia pond, Dale Schuitema of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration said yesterday.

The handbook bore a number linking it to a twin-engine Cessna which police believe Andrew Carter Thornton used to smuggle cocaine, authorities said.

Thornton, 40, was found dead Sept. 11 in a Knoxville resident's travel driveway with a duffel bag of 7 pounds of cocaine attached to his waist. He lay next to his reserve parachute and an unopened main

chute was still on his back.

The other items found last week in a garment bag floating in a pond in Butts County, Ga., were not handed over to authorities until Monday, Schuitema said.

"There were some jeans, shirts, underwear and handwritten notes that we're trying to decipher," he said.

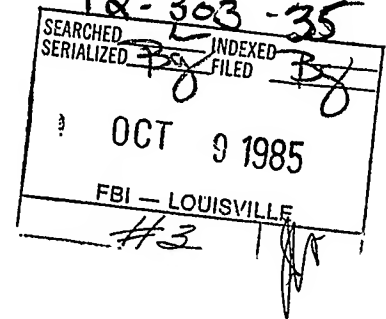
Schuitema declined to say what connection the maps of Jamaica had to the case.

Police have said they believe markings on the cocaine indicate the drug originated in South America, but the Cessna's pilot may have picked up his load on an island closer to the United States.

DEA agents have said little about their investigation of Thornton, a former Lexington, Ky., narcotics officer who was an experienced pilot and parachutist.

Police found a key in his pocket with the same numbering as the Cessna, which crashed in Clay County, N.C., with its autopilot engaged and no one aboard.

Besides the cocaine found with Thornton's body, a parachute tied to three duffel bags with 220 pounds of cocaine was found in the north Georgia mountains.



COPY SENT TO BUREAU 10-9-85

XX

AIRTEL

10/6/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)
FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (P)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER

(OO: LOUISVILLE)

Re Louisville teletype to Charlotte dated 9/25/85.

For information of Louisville, [] FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA), Raleigh, N. C., telephone number [] was the FAA official who examined instant plane crash.

Contact will be made with [] in an effort to obtain his report concerning the plane crash involving subject's airplane on 9/11/85 in Clay County, N. C.

LEADS

CHARLOTTE

AT RALEIGH, N. C.

Will contact [] FAA, telephone number [] concerning the obtaining of his report of the plane crash which occurred in Clay County, N. C., on 9/11/85 of a Cessna 404, twin engine, and thereafter furnish report to Louisville.

2-Louisville
3-Charlotte

CJM:jeb
(5)

126-303-36

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 10 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

VZCZCHQ0213

PP BA BH CI DN IP JK KC LA LS MM MP NO NY NK OM PH PX RH SI TP

DE AT

P 102100Z OCT 85

FM ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQUAD 8)

TO BALTIMORE PRIORITY

BIRMINGHAM PRIORITY

CINCINNATI PRIORITY

DENVER PRIORITY

INDIANAPOLIS PRIORITY

JACKSONVILLE PRIORITY

KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

LOS ANGELES PRIORITY

LOUISVILLE PRIORITY

MIAMI PRIORITY

MINNEAPOLIS PRIORITY

NEW ORLEANS PRIORITY

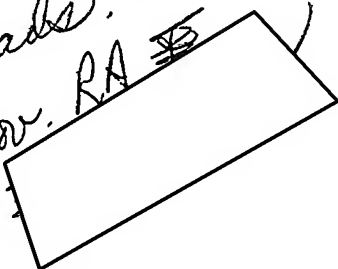
NEW YORK PRIORITY

NEWARK PRIORITY

OMAHA PRIORITY

PHILADELPHIA PRIORITY

*Leads. &
Cor. RA*

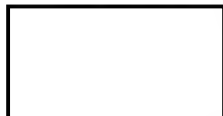


12G-303-317

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 13 1985	
[Redacted Box]	

Cor. RA

LB



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PAGE TWO AT 149A-703

PHOENIX PRIORITY

RICHMOND PRIORITY

SPRINGFIELD PRIORITY

TAMPA PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

SECTION 1 OF 2

UNSUB(S); DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC;

DAMV; NARCOTICS; OO: ATLANTA

FOR THE INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES, ATLANTA IS CONDUCTING JOINT DAMV AND NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS IN CAPTIONED MATTER. THE TITLE OF ATLANTAS NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION IS "ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS(G); OO: LOUISVILLE (AT 12G-738) (LS 12G-303)".

ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, THE BODY OF ANDREW THORNTON WAS DISCOVERED IN THE DRIVEWAY OF A KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE RESIDENCE. APPROXIMATELY 75 POUNDS OF COCAINE WAS STRAPPED TO THORNTONS BODY. THORNTON HAD APPARENTLY BAILED OUT OF AN AIRPLANE IN THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, AND DIED WHEN HIS PARACHUTE FAILED TO PROPERLY DEPLOY. THE PLANE IN WHICH THORNTON HAD FLOWN WAS LATER DISCOVERED

PAGE THREE AT 149A-703

CRASHED ON A MOUNTAIN IN NORTH CAROLINA. PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION IN LOUISVILLE DIVISION LINKED THORNTON WITH DAVID LEE WILLIAMS, AN ATLANTA PROPERTY CONSULTANT AND ACCOMPLISHED PARACHUTIST. ON SEPTEMBER 29, 1985, WILLIAMS AND SIXTEEN (16) PARACHUTISTS WERE KILLED WHEN THE CESSNA 208 IN WHICH THEY WERE FLYING AND WHICH WILLIAMS OWNED, CRASHED IN BUTTS COUNTY, GEORGIA. INITIAL FINDINGS BY THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD (NTSB) INDICATED THAT SUGAR WAS IN THE GAS LINE FILTERS OF WILLIAMS CESSNA. ATLANTA INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT THORNTON AND WILLIAMS BECAME FRIENDS APPROXIMATELY FOUR YEARS AGO BECAUSE OF THEIR MUTUAL INTEREST IN SKYDIVING. IT APPEARS THAT WILLIAMS, THORNTON AND OTHER MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN A SCHEME TO RIP OFF 400 KILOS OF COCAINE FROM MIAMI BASED COLOMBIANS WHEN THORNTON DIED ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985. BASED ON TELEPHONE TOLL RECORDS OF WILLIAMS HOME TELEPHONE AND CREDIT CARDS TAKEN FROM WILLIAMS PERSONAL POSSESSIONS, THE FOLLOWING LEADS ARE BEING SET OUT:

LEADS: RECEIVING OFFICES ARE TO DETERMINE THE SUBSCRIBER OF THE FOLLOWING TELEPHONE NUMBERS. ADDITIONALLY,

PAGE FOUR AT 149A-703

EACH OFFICE SHOULD CONDUCT CRIMINAL AND INTELLIGENCE CHECKS ON EACH SUBSCRIBER TO DETERMINE THEIR LIKELY INVOLVEMENT WITH NARCOTICS. IF DEEMED APPROPRIATE SUBSCRIBERS SHOULD BE INTERVIEWED TO DETERMINE THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH DAVID WILLIAMS AND THEIR KNOWLEDGE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE CRASH OF WILLIAMS CESSNA 208 ON SEPTEMBER 29, 1985, AND ANY ASSOCIATION WILLIAMS MAY HAVE HAD WITH COCAINE TRAFFICKING.

BALTIMORE DIVISION AT WILMINGTON, DELAWARE: AS TELEPHONICALLY DISCUSSED WITH IA [REDACTED] BALTIMORE, ON OCTOBER 10, 1985, OBTAIN BILLING RECORDS FROM MARYLAND BANK FOR DAVID WILLIAMS MASTERCARD, ACCOUNT NUMBER 5329 0315 3004 9400, FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 1984, UNTIL PRESENT.

BIRMINGHAM DIVISION AT TUSCALOOSA, ALABAMA:

[REDACTED]
CINCINNATI DIVISION AT XENIA, OHIO: [REDACTED]

DENVER DIVISION AT DILLON, COLORADO: [REDACTED]

AT VAIL, COLORADO: [REDACTED]

INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION AT FRANKFORT, INDIANA: [REDACTED]

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b7C

b6
b7C

PAGE FIVE AT 149A-703

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

JACKSONVILLE DIVISION AT PALATKA, FLORIDA:

[REDACTED]

AT PENSACOLA, FLORIDA: [REDACTED]

KANSAS CITY DIVISION AT WICHITA, KANSAS: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

LOS ANGELES DIVISION AT BANNING, CALIFORNIA:

[REDACTED]

AT SAN BERNADINO, CALIFORNIA: [REDACTED]

LOUISVILLE DIVISION AT BOONE, KENTUCKY: [REDACTED]

AT LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY: [REDACTED]

Cin. Bell
General Tel

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b7C

MIAMI DIVISION AT MIAMI, FLORIDA: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MILWAUKEE DIVISION AT MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

MINNEAPOLIS DIVISION AT SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA:

SERVE ADMINISTRATIVE SUBPOENA FORWARDED BY ATLANTA TO SIOUX
FALLS RA BY FEDERAL EXPRESS ON CITIBANK VISA FOR THE ACCOUNT
OF DAVID L. WILLIAMS, ACCOUNT NUMBER 4128 179 733 618.

NEW ORLEANS DIVISION AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA:

[REDACTED]

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b7C

PAGE SIX AT 149A-703

NEW YORK DIVISION AT QUEENS, NEW YORK: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

NEWARK DIVISION AT WASHINGTON, NEW JERSEY:

[REDACTED]

OMAHA DIVISION AT DES MOINES, IOWA: OBTAIN BILLING
RECORDS FROM OCTOBER 1, 1984, TO PRESENT FROM AMOCO OIL
COMPANY FOR THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS: DAVID L. WILLIAMS,
ACCOUNT NUMBER 3049 701487 1661 AND DAVID L. WILLIAMS,
ACCOUNT NUMBER 497 014 871 6 1001.

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA:

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C

AT POTTSTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA: [REDACTED]

AT WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PHOENIX DIVISION AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]

AT TUSCON, ARIZONA: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RICHMOND DIVISION AT NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA: [REDACTED]

AT WEST POINT, VIRGINIA: [REDACTED]

BT

-----END OF DOCUMENT-----

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PP BA BH CI DN IP JK KC LA LS MM MP NO NY NK OM PH PX RH SI TP

DE AT

P 102100Z OCT 85

FM ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQUAD 8)

TO BALTIMORE PRIORITY

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CINCINNATI PRIORITY

DENVER PRIORITY

INDIANAPOLIS PRIORITY

JACKSONVILLE PRIORITY

KANSAS CITY PRIORITY

LOS ANGELES PRIORITY

LOUISVILLE PRIORITY

MIAMI PRIORITY

MINNEAPOLIS PRIORITY

NEW ORLEANS PRIORITY

NEW YORK PRIORITY

NEWARK PRIORITY

OMAHA PRIORITY

PHILADELPHIA PRIORITY

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PHOENIX PRIORITY

RICHMOND PRIORITY

SPRINGFIELD PRIORITY

TAMPA PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

SECTION 2 OF 2

UNSUB(S); DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC;

DAMV; BARCOTICS; OO: ATLANTA

LEADS: SPRINGFIELD DIVISION AT SPARTA, ILLINOIS:

[REDACTED]
TAMPA DIVISION AT FORT MYERS, FLORIDA:

AT ORLANDO, FLORIDA: [REDACTED]

AT PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA: [REDACTED]

ALL OFFICES PLEASE SUTEL RESULTS.

BT

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b7C

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

The Courier Journal
 Pages 1&8, Lou. Ky
 Date: October 8, 1985
 Edition: Metro Edition

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Title: Lawyer tells of threat
 linked to Thornton case

Character:
 or
 Classification:
 Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

126-303-38

COPY SENT BUREAU 10-18-85

FBI/DC

Lawyer tells of threat linked to Thornton case

By ANDREW WOLFSON
 and WILLIAM KEESLER
 Courier-Journal Staff Writers

A Louisville lawyer who represents a friend of Andrew Carter Thornton II has told authorities that he and his client were threatened by a man apparently seeking missing cocaine in connection with a drug-smuggling operation that led to Thornton's death.

C. Fred Partin, the attorney, said yesterday that he was threatened over the telephone Sept. 21 by someone "apparently involved" in the drug transaction, which had come to a bizarre end 10 days earlier when Thornton parachuted to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., with \$15 million worth of cocaine.

Partin said he reported the threat to "government representatives" last month.

He declined to discuss the details of the threat.

However, according to a source who asked not to be named because he felt he should not publicly discuss a continuing criminal investigation, the caller asked where he could find Thornton's friend and where he could find "the eight pygmies."

C. Fred Partin said that the caller was "apparently involved" in the cocaine deal that ended when the one-time Lexington officer died in Tennessee.

The caller did not define or identify "pygmies" but suggested they represented a certain quantity of cocaine, the source said.

When Partin told the caller that neither he nor the friend knew what he was talking about — and that the friend had no interest in speaking with him — the caller threatened both of them, the source said.

According to the source, the caller, who gave a name and said he was from Miami, said that if he and his associates couldn't locate the "pygmies," they would "get" Thornton's friend, and if they couldn't "get" the friend, they would "get" Partin.

Partin reported the threat to U.S. Attorney Alexander Taft Jr., according to two sources, and has been interviewed since by James Malone, a

Louisville-based agent of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration.

Taft declined to comment on the matter, as did Kelly Snyder, the DEA's chief agent in Kentucky.

Bill Deac, a DEA spokesman in Washington, said the agency was not familiar with the term "pygmy" but added that it could be a code word used by a single drug organization. The source who provided information about the reported threat said it may refer to a duffel bag of cocaine.

Although federal authorities would not comment on the reports that a man was seeking cocaine in Kentucky, newspapers in Tennessee and Georgia have said that Thornton and accomplices may have tried to pull off a massive ripoff of Colombian drug smugglers operating in Florida.

Thornton, 40, a former Lexington narcotics officer, fell to his death on Sept. 11 when he tried to parachute into Knoxville with 75 pounds of cocaine.

Authorities have also linked him to about 200 pounds of cocaine that were later found hanging on a parachute in a tree in northern Georgia.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation has been trying to learn whether a plane that crashed Sept. 29, killing the pilot and 16 parachutists, may have been sabotaged as revenge for a cocaine theft.

Quoting a drug agent who declined to be identified, The Knoxville News-Sentinel reported Sunday that Colombian smugglers sabotaged the plane because its owner, David L. Williams, had botched delivery of \$591 million worth of cocaine.

The newspaper said Williams, who was among those killed in the Sept. 29 crash, had parachuted with Thornton on the ill-fated cocaine drop in Knoxville.

"Those Colombians are upset they didn't get their shipment," the agent

See LAWYER

Back page, col. 1, this section

Lawyer tells of drug-case threat

Continued from Page One
was quoted as saying. "They wanted Williams to pay for messing up."

Quoting an unnamed source close to the investigation, the Macon (Ga.) Telegraph & News reported that Williams, 35, was "targeted for termination" because a "sizable amount of cocaine" was "skimmed" from the shipment bound for Tennessee.

Relatives of Williams have strongly denied he was involved in smuggling drugs.

The National Transportation Safety Board discovered sugar in the fuel lines of Williams' plane and has turned the probe over to the FBI, which is checking for possible sabotage of the craft.

Investigators with several agencies yesterday declined to confirm the Knoxville newspaper's report

that Williams parachuted with Thornton during the fatal jump.

The report also said an unnamed friend of Thornton's was to meet him and Williams on the ground that night and go with them to Georgia to pick up additional drops of cocaine.

Officials of the DEA and the Federal Bureau of Investigation said they did not have evidence to substantiate the report, but neither did they deny it.

William Whitley, head of the narcotics division in the FBI's Atlanta office, said the Knoxville paper's scenario is one of several "avenues" his agency is looking at.

Another "strong possibility," he said, is that a competitor of Williams — someone involved either in drugs or in transporting parachutists — sought to disable his plane.

Whitley and several other investi-

gators questioned the Knoxville paper's assertion that Colombian drug smugglers sabotaged Williams' plane — because he either mishandled Thornton's drug shipment or stole some of the cocaine.

If Colombians had wanted to kill Williams, officials said, they would have done it more directly — execution-style — to ensure that everyone knew revenge was being taken.

"This whole thing is not a Colombian MO (mode of operation)," said Tony Acri, a DEA agent based in Atlanta. The suspected sabotage, he said, is "not the way they do business."

Added another investigator, who asked not to be identified because he had not been authorized to speak: "They don't usually put sugar in your gas tank. They usually just execute you."

Using sugar seems more typical of "redneck" Southerners than of Colombians, the investigator said.

He said the apparent sabotage

could have been a warning for Williams or other parachutists involved with Thornton's shipment not to talk to authorities.

It also could have been a warning to return any part of the shipment that was stolen or to stay away from caches of drugs or cash from past shipments.

"Probably this is not the first time that these people were involved in a drug deal together," the investigator said. "There may be more drugs hidden. There may be money hidden."

Another theory voiced by investigators was that a partner of Williams' in the Thornton smuggling attempt killed him to increase that partner's share of the profits.

It is also possible, the investigators said, that the plane was sabotaged for reasons not involving drugs.

At this time, Whitley said, "We're not going to concentrate on one particular avenue of investigation."

Lawyer tells of threat linked to Thornton case

By ANDREW WOLFSON
and WILLIAM KEESLER
Courier-Journal Staff Writers

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See **LAWYER**

Back page, col. 1, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-1

Date: 10/08/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: LAWYER TELLS OF THREAT
LINKED TO THORNTON CASE

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

IS

Indexing:

COPY SENT BUREAU 10-18-85

126-305-40

Continued from Page One

was quoted as saying. "They wanted Williams to pay for messing up."

Quoting an unnamed source close to the investigation, the Macon (Ga.) Telegraph & News reported that Williams, 35, was "targeted for termination" because a "sizable amount of cocaine" was "skimmed" from the shipment bound for Tennessee.

Relatives of Williams have strongly denied he was involved in smuggling drugs.

The National Transportation Safety Board discovered sugar in the fuel lines of Williams' plane and has turned the probe over to the FBI, which is checking for possible sabotage of the craft.

Investigators with several agencies yesterday declined to confirm the Knoxville newspaper's report

that Williams parachuted with Thornton during the fatal jump.

The report also said an unnamed friend of Thornton's was to meet him and Williams on the ground that night and go with them to Georgia to pick up additional drops of cocaine.

Officials of the DEA and the Federal Bureau of Investigation said they did not have evidence to substantiate the report, but neither did they deny it.

William Whitley, head of the narcotics division in the FBI's Atlanta office, said the Knoxville paper's scenario is one of several "avenues" his agency is looking at.

Another "strong possibility," he said, is that a competitor of Williams — someone involved either in drugs or in transporting parachutists — sought to disable his plane.

Whitley and several other investi-

gators questioned the Knoxville paper's assertion that Colombian drug smugglers sabotaged Williams' plane — because he either mishandled Thornton's drug shipment or stole some of the cocaine.

If Colombians had wanted to kill Williams, officials said, they would have done it more directly — execution-style — to ensure that everyone knew revenge was being taken.

"This whole thing is not a Colombian MO (mode of operation)," said Tony Acri, a DEA agent based in Atlanta. The suspected sabotage, he said, is "not the way they do business."

Added another investigator, who asked not to be identified because he had not been authorized to speak: "They don't usually put sugar in your gas tank. They usually just execute you."

Using sugar seems more typical of "redneck" Southerners than of Colombians, the investigator said.

He said the apparent sabotage

could have been a warning for Williams or other parachutists involved with Thornton's shipment not to talk to authorities.

It also could have been a warning to return any part of the shipment that was stolen or to stay away from caches of drugs or cash from past shipments.

"Probably this is not the first time that these people were involved in a drug deal together," the investigator said. "There may be more drugs hidden. There may be money hidden."

Another theory voiced by investigators was that a partner of Williams' in the Thornton smuggling attempt killed him to increase that partner's share of the profits.

It is also possible, the investigators said, that the plane was sabotaged for reasons not involving drugs.

At this time, Whitley said, "We're not going to concentrate on one particular avenue of investigation."

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE (9-0)

Date 10/8/85

From : SSA [REDACTED]

Subject : UNSUB:

[REDACTED]
EXTORTION

OO: LOUISVILLE

On 10/8/85, the Louisville Courier-Journal ran an article indicating that victim, a local Louisville attorney and former AUSA, WDKY, was threatened telephonically due to his apparent knowledge of the whereabouts of an individual sought by drug dealers. The caller stated that he was from Miami and that if he and his associates could not locate the "friend" of ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II, they would "get" PARTIN, apparently in the belief that PARTIN knows the whereabouts of the "friend".

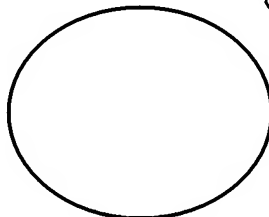
This incident involves a much larger and more complex cocaine deal being investigated by DEA and the FBI in which THORNTON is dead and a second individual, DAVID L. WILLIAMS, was killed when his aircraft fuel was tainted with sugar and the airplane crashed. It is believed that Columbian drug smugglers are involved in retaliation over a blotched delivery of \$591 million dollars worth of cocaine.

The above drug matter is being handled out of Louisville file 12D-303 captioned, "ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER. OO: LOUISVILLE."

It is noted that [REDACTED] reported his telephonic threat to U.S. Attorney ALEXANDER T. TAFT, JR., who decided to refer the matter to DEA, believing it to be a link in the THORNTON case. [REDACTED] has since been interviewed regarding the threat by ASAC [REDACTED] DEA, Louisville.

Inasmuch as no interstate telephone call has been established, and of the fact that the extortion is being handled as part of the above described drug case, no substantive extortion case is being opened at this time.

1 - 9-0
1 - 12D-303
DES:sjs
(2)



12D-303-41

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 8 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

TO: OFFICE SERVICES-MANAGER

Subject

THORNTON

Date

10/21/85

Social Security Account #

Aliases

Re: MERCENARY COUNTER-TERRORISM TRAINING CAMPS

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling

☐ All References

☐ Main Security Case Files Only

☐ Security References Only

☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only

☐ Criminal References Only

☐ Main Security (If no Main, list all Security References)

☐ Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

☐ Restrict Locality of

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks
<i>62E-2234-103</i>	<i>Andrew Thornton</i>		
<i>92-1231-7901</i>	<i>Andrew Thornton</i>		
<i>183B-370</i>	<i>Andrew C. Thornton</i>		
<i>190-100-57</i>	<i>Andrew C. Thornton II</i>		

<i>9-0-565</i>	<i>Andrew Carter Thornton</i>		
<i>190-299</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	
<i>12G-303</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	
<i>92-1187-117</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	
<i>44-1800</i>	<i>Andrew Carter Thornton, II</i>		
<i>183B-642-4</i>	<i>Andrew "Drew" Thornton</i>		
<i>-Sub R-9</i>	<i>" "</i>	<i>" "</i>	

<i>65-1001</i>	<i>Telco's Research & Analytical Data</i>		

Requested by

Squad

Extension

File No.

☒ General

Search

☐ Confidential Indices:

☐ ELSUR Indices:

Consolidated by

Reviewed by

☐ ISIS:

Searched by

☐ OCIS:

Searched by

☐ IIS:

Searched by

Date

Date

File Review Symbols

I - Identical
NI - Not identical

? - Not identifiable
U - Unavailable reference

b6

b7C

b6

b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 10/16/85

[redacted] a supervisory official at the AMOCO OIL COMPANY CREDIT CARD CENTER, was contacted at her place of employment.

b6
b7C

In response to a subpoena, she provided monthly billing statements along with monthly payment records relating to customer DAVID L. WILLIAMS, account number 497 014 871 6. These records cover the period October 10, 1984, through October 10, 1985.

Investigation on 10/15/85 at West Des Moines, Iowa File # LS 12-302-43
Omaha 12G-3
Atlanta 12G-738
by SA [redacted] rf Date dictated 10/16/85

b6
b7C

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/16/85

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (12G-738)
 FROM: SAC, OMAHA (12G-NEW) (RUC)

ANDREW CARTER THORTON II
 NARCOTICS (G)
 OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Atlanta telcall of SA Glen Oldham to SA
 Des Moines, Iowa, RA, 10/10/85.

b6
 b7c

Enclosed for Atlanta is one copy of an executed FD-617 along with AMOCO billing records relating to DAVID LEE WILLIAMS. Also enclosed are two copies of an FD-302 relating to the acquisition of these records.

Enclosed for Louisville is the original, executed FD-617 along with the original and one copy of the same FD-302.

Atlanta note that AMOCO was not requested to produce copies of individual charge tickets for these accounts at this time. Such a request is a more lengthy and costly endeavor by this cooperating company, and Omaha makes such a request only when absolutely necessary.

In the event such individual charges are required by Atlanta, Omaha will recontact AMOCO officials.

2 - Atlanta (Enc. - 4)
 ② - Louisville (Enc. - 3) *MTK*
 1 - Omaha
 JPD:rf
 (5)

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____
 (Number) (Time)

12-303-44

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>44</i>	FILED <i>44</i>
OCT 21 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

[Signature]

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Air-crash probe sources suggest rip-off, revenge

From AP and Staff Dispatches

ATLANTA — Andrew Carter Thornton II, the parachutist who fell to his death last month in Tennessee carrying about 75 pounds of cocaine, may have been part of a drug-smuggling conspiracy involving parachutists in Georgia, sources said yesterday.

And a Georgia newspaper reported that a plane that crashed Sunday, killing 17 people, was sabotaged to avenge a cocaine theft.

An agent with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, who declined to give his name because he was not authorized to speak, confirmed that his agency has been investigating the involvement of parachutists in drug smuggling since before Thornton's fatal leap into Knoxville Sept. 11. He refused to comment further.

Federal authorities acknowledged this week that Thornton, 40, a former narcotics officer and attorney in Lexington, was an acquaintance of

David Lee Williams, 35, who owned the plane that crashed Sunday.

Williams, an Atlanta real estate developer, died in that crash, along with 16 other people on a skydiving outing in Butts County, about 50 miles south of Atlanta.

The FBI entered the investigation this week at the request of the National Transportation Safety Board after the board confirmed there was sugar in the fuel system of Williams' plane.

"We're looking at this from a sabotage aspect," FBI agent Ed Horne said. "We're not into any drug situation. I can't elaborate on the connection between them. A lot of it hasn't been specifically confirmed."

The Macon Telegraph & News reported yesterday that Williams was murdered as revenge for a cocaine theft. The newspaper quoted an un-

See AIR-CRASH
PAGE 3, col. 2, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE B-1

Date: 10/05/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: AIRCRASH PROBE SOURCES
SUGGEST RIP-OFF, REVENGE

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

Indexing:

120-303-46

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 22 1985	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU OCT 22 1985

Continued from Page B 1

identified source close to the investigation.

"It was a revenge-type thing. It was sabotage. Somebody was targeted for termination," the paper quoted the source as saying.

"There was a sizable amount (of cocaine) skimmed from the shipment going to Tennessee. There was 100 pounds or more of the shipment," the newspaper's source said, adding that the others on Williams' plane were innocent victims.

Shortly after Thornton's death, authorities found a parachute and three duffel bags containing about 200 pounds of cocaine hanging from a tree in Fannin County, Ga., near the Tennessee border.

The sources who spoke with the Macon newspaper and The Associated Press said the discovery in Fannin County prompted the theory that Thornton may have planned a rip-off.

One source said the Georgia bureau's investigation hinged on the as-

sumption that Thornton dropped part of his load in Fannin County to support claims that, because of mechanical trouble or close pursuit, he had to abandon his plane and scatter the load across the countryside.

The north Georgia mountains have been a drop zone for drugs for years. More than 400 pounds of cocaine in 10 canisters and two duffel bags was found scattered in mountain counties in a 1982 investigation.

Another source said the bureau believed "there are definite ties between Thornton and other drug drops in Georgia."

The source added, "We think other (parachutists) are tied into the conspiracy."

Butts County Sheriff Billy Leverette told The Courier-Journal last night that the Macon newspaper's report was based on speculation, but agreed that revenge was almost certainly the motive for the apparent sabotage.

"It was definitely somebody who was after somebody," he said. "You

don't put sugar into the fuel of an airplane without wanting it to crash.

"Who were they after? Were they after David Williams, the owner of the plane, or Steven Wilson, the pilot, or one of the other 15 people who were on the plane? Some people don't care how many lives it costs just to take one."

Another investigator, who asked not to be named because he was not authorized to speak, told The Courier-Journal that the apparent sabotage might not be drug-related. Someone could have been trying to strike back at Williams for some past land deal, he said.

The investigator also posed the possibility that vandals had contaminated the fuel.

Some local residents were annoyed by the frequent air traffic at the West Wind Sport Parachute Center and the large number of people it attracted from outside the county, he said. The center had also been burglarized in the past, he said.

Thornton's will lists political, legal figures among beneficiaries

Information for this story was also gathered by staff writer William Keesler.

By **ANDREW WOLFSON**
Courier-Journal Staff Writer

Drug smuggler Andrew Carter Thornton II's hand-scribbled will lists beneficiaries who include an array of figures from the former Lexington narcotics officer's past.

Among those bequeathed stocks, parachutes and his \$15,000 weapon collection are a former top aide to a Kentucky governor and a speaker of the Kentucky House of Representatives; the director of processing at the Fayette County Detention Center; the son of a U.S. Customs Bureau investigator in New York; and an Army sergeant at a special-warfare center at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Thornton was killed Sept. 11 when his main parachute failed to open as he tried to jump into Knoxville, Tenn., with 75 pounds of cocaine.

The two-page will, which Thornton prepared in June 1984, asks that his survivors scatter his ashes over his

parents' Paris horse farm and "then have a party."

The will, which was read in Woodford District Court on Thursday and filed in Bourbon District Court yesterday, shows that Thornton owned stock in Eli Lilly & Co. and Jerrico Inc., along with such exotic holdings as a Mexican silver mine.

Thornton named Lexington attorney J. Randall Reinhardt, a former law partner, as executor, and said he should receive a \$5,000 fee.

However, Reinhardt declined the job and fee, and family members asked Louisville attorney C. Fred Partin to serve as executor instead. Partin declined to comment on the will or its beneficiaries.

Reinhardt could not be reached yesterday at his office or home.

Thornton's estate apparently is worth about \$78,000, including a Jessamine County farm worth \$27,000, according to court documents.

Alexander Taft Jr., U.S. attorney for the Western District of Kentucky,

See **THORNTON**

Back page, col. 4, this section

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY, PAGE A-1

Date: 10/19/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: THORNTON'S WILL LISTS
POLITICAL, LEGAL FIGURES
AMONG BENEFICIARIES

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

IS

Indexing:

ANDREW CARTER
THORNTON II

9-0-565

124-303-47

SEARCHED <i>mtk</i>	INDEXED <i>mtk</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mtk</i>	FILED <i>mtk</i>
OCT 22 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU OCT 22 1985

Thornton will lists beneficiaries

Continued from Page One

said last night, "I would suggest that ... they (the items in the will) are subject to seizure" under a federal law that allows the government to take property gained through drug dealings.

Asked if he would act to do so, Taft said, "No comment."

Thornton bequeathed his Jessamine County land and various stock and oil-well interests to Henry Vance Jr., who once was a top aide to former Kentucky Gov. Julian Carroll and former House Speaker Bobby Richardson.

Vance grew up with Thornton in Lexington country-club circles, and served with him during the early 1970s in the police narcotics unit.

Vance could not be reached for comment yesterday despite several calls to his home.

The will instructed Vance to get in touch with Richard A. Harris, a Fresno, Calif., attorney, about the oil wells. Harris, who had represented Thornton before, said yesterday that he could not discuss the wells because of attorney-client privilege.

Thornton left his interest in Pino Altos Limited Partnership, a Mexican silver mine, to the son of Jay Joseph Silvestre, another former Lexington narcotics officer.

Silvestre, now a customs investigator in New York, said in a telephone interview that he was "shocked" to find himself and his son mentioned in Thornton's will.

Silvestre said he deliberately hadn't associated with Thornton since 1981, when Thornton was implicated in an international drug- and gun-smuggling conspiracy. Thornton eventually pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge.

"He knew that just the mention of his name was enough to get me in trouble," Silvestre said.

He described the silver mine as "nearly defunct" and of little value. The will identifies Silvestre's son, Louis Andrew, as Thornton's godson. To Tony Dehner, director of processing and a hearing officer at the

Fayette County Detention Center, Thornton bequeathed his interest in a Lexington property, a three-bedroom, English-style cottage at 411 Kenilworth Court.

Dehner said yesterday, however, that the house had been sold.

He said he was "sort of surprised" to be included in the will, but acknowledged, "We were friends. I can't deny that."

Dehner said he and Thornton shared interests in dogs and guns and periodically met on Dehner's farm at Wilmore in Jessamine County for target practice.

He said he had no idea Thornton was still involved in drugs.

Because the house has been sold, Dehner said, "I didn't get anything in the will other than having my name mentioned, and I guess, because of my job, people will try to make something of it. I'd just rather stay out of the whole thing."

Thornton left his weapon collection to five people, including Vance and a Jamie Thackaberry.

Thackaberry reportedly is a parachutist who, until recently, served in the Delta Force, the U.S. military's rapid-deployment unit, which is based at Fort Bragg.

Maj. Tom Hogan, public information officer for the 18th Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, said a Sgt. James A. Thackaberry has been enrolled since August in a parachute and scuba-diving-operation course at the fort's John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center. The center offers training programs for U.S. and foreign troops, Hogan said.

Thackaberry could not be reached for comment through the center. He does not have a telephone listed in the area.

Thornton left his horses to his father, mother, brother and sister "to share and share alike."

To his nieces and nephews, he bequeathed the proceeds of whole-life insurance policies with Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co.

He left his parachutes to Billy Rhodes. No telephone listing could

be found for Rhodes, a parachutist who lives in Dayton, Ohio.

Thornton's will also named his girlfriend, Rebecca Sharp, and her aunt, Sally Sharp McCloud.

He left them "personal letters," which the will says could be retrieved from his parents, Reinhardt or Phil Clements, a friend.

Thornton also left both women his cars, which in the past included a Jaguar, and his books, clothes and other miscellaneous possessions.

He also left Ms. Sharp part of his gun collection and the balance of stocks not bequeathed to Vance.

The will was not witnessed, but presumably will be considered legal because it was written in his own hand.

At the end of the document, he wrote:

"There is to be NO funeral. After useable body parts (eyes, kidneys etc.) are removed I want to be cremated. Release my ashes in air over my parents farm & then have a party."

Thornton was cremated, but the ashes were buried Sept. 14 in Paris Cemetery.

His father, Carter Thornton, declined to discuss the will in detail. He did say that his son's funeral was held before the will surfaced.

"I don't think it's anybody's business where his ashes are," he said. "He's dead, he's gone, he did wrong, and he paid the price for it. I don't think anything further needs to be said."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

1 of 17 chutists with Thornton, newspaper says

Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — One of 17 people who died last week in a suspicious plane crash had parachuted with Andrew C. Thornton II on an ill-fated cocaine drop in Knoxville, a newspaper reported yesterday.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel, quoting a drug agent who refused to be identified, said Colombian smugglers sabotaged David L. Williams' plane in Georgia as retaliation for the botched delivery of \$591 million in cocaine.

"The plan was to drop the cocaine in one spot, bail out in another and send the plane into the ocean," the agent, speaking on the condition he not be identified, told the newspaper.

The News-Sentinel reported that the two were to rendezvous in Knoxville and drive to northern Georgia to hunt other duffel bags of cocaine dropped from Thornton's plane.

The drugs were to be delivered to Colombian smugglers operating in Florida, the newspaper reported. "Those Colombians are upset they didn't get their shipment," the agent was quoted as saying. "They wanted Williams to pay for messing up."

Joe Hardy, an FBI agent in Atlanta investigating possible sabotage of Williams' single-engine Cessna, declined to confirm the report.

"I'd like to know their source so I could assign some agents to check it out," Hardy said.

Thornton, a former narcotics officer in Lexington, Ky., died Sept. 11 when his reserve parachute failed to slow him. He was carrying 75 pounds of cocaine.

Further investigation turned up three duffel bags, containing more than 200 pounds of cocaine, hanging from a parachute in the north Georgia woods. Markings on the cocaine bundles linked it to Thornton's shipment.

The National Transportation Safety Board discovered sugar in the fuel lines of Williams' plane and have turned the investigation over to the FBI, which is checking for possible sabotage of the craft.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE B-12

Date: 10/07/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: 1 OF 17 CHUTISTS WITH
"THORNTON"; NEWSPAPER SAYS

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

120-303-48

SEARCHED <i>ca</i>	INDEXED <i>ca</i>
SERIALIZED <i>ca</i>	FILED <i>ca</i>
OCT 22 1985	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU OCT 22 1985

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-3Date: 10/19/85
Edition: EVENING

Title: THORNTON'S HANDWRITTEN WILL READ; SURVIVORS TOLD TO HAVE A PARTY

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

Thornton's handwritten will read; survivors told to 'have a party'

Associated Press

PARIS, Ky. — Drug smuggler Andrew Carter Thornton II's handwritten will asks that his survivors scatter his ashes over his parents' Paris horse farm and then "have a party."

The two-page will, which the former Lexington narcotics officer prepared in June 1984, was read in Woodford District Court on Thursday and filed in Bourbon District Court yesterday.

Among those bequeathed part of Thornton's estate, valued at about \$78,000, are a former top aide to a Kentucky governor and a speaker for the state House of Representatives; the director of processing at the Fayette County Detention Center; and the son of a U.S. Customs Bureau investigator in New York.

However, Alexander Taft Jr., U.S. attorney for Kentucky's Western District, said last night, "I would suggest that . . . they [items in will] are subject to seizure" under a federal law that allows the government to take property gained through drug dealings.

Asked if he would act to do so, Taft

said, "No comment."

Thornton died Sept. 11 when his main parachute failed to open as he tried to jump into Knoxville, Tenn., with about 75 pounds of cocaine strapped to him. He evidently jumped from too low a level for his reserve chute, which was deployed, to slow his fall sufficiently.

The will was not witnessed, but presumably will be considered legal in Kentucky because it was written in his own hand.

At the end of the document, Thornton wrote:

"There is to be NO funeral. After useable body parts [eyes, kidneys, etc.] are removed, I want to be cremated. Release my ashes in air over my parents' farm and then have a party."

Thornton was cremated, but the ashes were buried Sept. 14 in Paris Cemetery, before the will surfaced.

The will indicated that Thornton owned stock in Eli Lilly & Co. and Jerrico Inc., along with such exotic holdings as a Mexican silver mine. He also had a farm in Jessamine County worth about \$27,000 and a \$15,000 gun collection.

To Henry Vance Jr., once a top aide to former Kentucky Gov. Julian Carroll and former House Speaker Bobby Richardson, Thornton bequeathed his Jessamine County land and stocks and oil-well interests.

Vance grew up with Thornton in Lexington, and served with him in the narcotics unit in the early '70s.

Thornton left his interest in the Mexican silver mine to the son of Jay Joseph Silvestre, another ex-narcotics officer who is now a customs investigator in New York.

The will identifies Silvestre's son, Louis Andrew, as Thornton's godson. Silvestre said he was "shocked" to be mentioned in the will and had not associated with Thornton since 1981, when Thornton was implicated in an international drug- and gun-smuggling conspiracy. Thornton eventually pleaded no contest to a misdemeanor charge.

To Tony Dehner, director of processing and a hearing officer at the Fayette County Detention Center, Thornton left his interest in a house in Lexington.

Dehner said yesterday however the house had been sold.

12-303-49

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI — LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU OCT 22 1985

Parachute find may be linked to Thornton

Associated Press

ATLANTA — State investigators are examining a parachute found last month for possible links to Andrew C. Thornton II, who died last month in Tennessee when he jumped from an airplane with 75 pounds of cocaine.

Cherokee County Sheriff Bo Ballard said Hubert Hester found a parachute on his property Sept. 12 and turned it over to the sheriff's department.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation was told yesterday of the parachute, which was found the day before Thornton died in Knoxville, said Jimmy Davis, supervisor of the bureau's drug enforcement section.

"We didn't notify the GBI because we didn't think anything about it," Ballard said. No cocaine or duffel bags were found near the parachute, he said.

Davis said agents would compare the parachute with the one Thornton, a former Lexington, Ky., police officer, used when he was killed. His parachute had failed to open.

The airplane Thornton is believed to have used crashed in the North Carolina mountains.

U.S. Forest Service workers later found three duffel bags with about 220 pounds of cocaine hanging from a parachute in Fannin County, northeast of Cherokee County. Officials said that discovery may also be linked to Thornton.

Hester said GBI agents told him the parachute found Sept. 12 was on a flight path and within a time frame that could link it to Thornton.

Hester also said his neighbors told him that his dogs barked wildly about the night of Sept. 10, and a neighbor reported seeing three men in a maroon car in a nearby parking lot about the same time that night.

"When I found it, whatever it was had been unbuckled from it and was gone," Hester told The Knoxville News-Sentinel.

There has been speculation that the Thornton case may be linked to a Sept. 29 plane crash near Jenkinsburg, 30 miles south of Atlanta, that killed sky-diver David Williams, 35, an Atlanta real estate developer, and 16 others.

Williams and Thornton are known to have participated in at least one sky-diving event together.

Continued from Page B 1

one time unarmed, or four to five people with a blade," Cook said.

Thornton lived in Lexington, but drove to Louisville in a white Jaguar each Tuesday for martial-arts training, said Cook, who once directed the Night Hawks, a neighborhood anti-crime patrol group.

"He reminded me of a rich polo player, a jet-setter, a Paul Newman type," Cook said.

Cook said he met Thornton in 1983 in Hamilton, Ohio, at a "Ninja training camp." Ninjas were feared and hated as hired assassins in 15th- and 16th-century Japan, but have earned a better reputation recently in the United States as the martial arts have come in vogue. Modern Ninjas fight with swords while encased in protective gear, Cook said.

Thornton was training in "blade" and "counter-blade" techniques, Cook said, and was studying "Wing Chun," the Chinese Kung Fu popularized by movie star Bruce Lee.

At the martial-arts school in Louisville, Thornton never discussed drug transactions and "nobody had the slightest idea he was into anything illegal," Cook said.

"The Drew I knew was totally different than the one described in the newspaper," he said.

Thornton brought a variety of people to Louisville for martial-arts and night-combat training, Cook said, including two men who said they served in the U.S. Army's elite Ranger unit and a man who said he served in the Norwegian special forces.

Cook said Thornton "knew somebody everywhere" and was about to arrange to have him train Norwegian troops in Norway.

Thornton and his Norwegian friend parachuted off the First National Tower in downtown Louisville in July, according to both Cook, who said he had seen a photograph of the stunt, and another source who said he has seen a videotape of the jump. The source asked not to be named because of questions about the legality of the jump.

The chief of security for First National Tower said he knew of no one who had jumped off the building, and said such a stunt is impossible.

However, Cook said: "Drew was always looking for a challenge. Anything that was difficult, Andrew was ready to take on."

Thornton acted as business manager for the martial-arts school and helped Cook move into the school's current location by paying two years' worth of dues — \$1,700 — in advance, Cook said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY, PAGE A-12

Date: 10/18/85

Edition: MORNING

Title: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
PARACHUTE FIND MAY BE LINK-
ED TO THORNTON

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

LS

He said Thornton occasionally referred him to C. Fred Partin, a Louisville attorney, for legal advice. According to court records, Partin incorporated the martial-arts business last November.

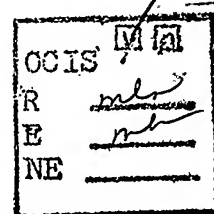
Despite Thornton's regular appearances in Louisville, according to Cook he never talked about his personal life and said, "The less you know about me the better."

Thornton described himself as a lawyer, Cook said, but acknowledged that he was "having some trouble with the bar."

Thornton was suspended from practicing law in 1982 after being convicted of a misdemeanor in connection with a marijuana-smuggling conspiracy. He had recently filed a petition to regain his law license, Louisville lawyer Frank Haddad Jr. said.

Another Louisville attorney, Thomas Clay, said he saw Thornton about seven months ago in Georgia at a legal seminar sponsored by the Atlanta Bar Association.

Clay said the seminar topic was "last-ditch" defense strategies in drug cases.



12-303-50

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 22 1985	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

COPY SENT BUREAU OCT 22 1985

LS0011 2982252Z

PP AT CE KX MM NK

DE LS

P 252252Z OCT 85

FM LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

TO ATLANTA (12G-738) PRIORITY

CHARLOTTE (12G-533) PRIORITY

KNOXVILLE (12G-377) PRIORITY

MIAMI PRIORITY

NEWARK PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

CCIS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
E	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; (OO: LS)

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO BALTIMORE ENTITLED "UNSUBS; DESTRUCTION
OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC, DAMV; NARCOTICS; (OO: AT), 10/10/85,

FOR BACKGROUND REGARDING SUBJECT.

INVESTIGATION HAS DEVELOPED THAT

DOB [REDACTED] SSAN [REDACTED] HAIR, [REDACTED] EYES, [REDACTED]

FBI NUMBER [REDACTED]

WAS PROBABLY THE SECOND PERSON ON THE AIRPLANE WITH THE SUBJECT AT
THE TIME OF ITS CRASH, NOT DAVID LEE WILLIAMS.

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b7c

12-303-51
cdw
cdw

PAGE TWO DE LS 011 UNCLAS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] RECENTLY AND LEFT. HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN. HIS LAST KNOWN ADDRESS WAS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IS A KNOWN ASSOCIATE OF THE SUBJECT AND IN FACT IS [REDACTED] HE IS MOST PROBABLY KNOWN TO RUBIN SOTO ANOTHER CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF SUBJECT AND INVOLVED IN THIS MATTER.

CHARLOTTE ADVISES THAT SA [REDACTED] OF THE NEWARK DIVISION WAS IN THE SAME MILITARY UNIT WITH [REDACTED] AND MAY HAVE A SOURCE WITH CURRENT INFORMATION REGARDING [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WAS ARRESTED AT [REDACTED] ON [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] A LEAD WAS SET FOR MIAMI DIVISION IN CHARLOTTE AIRTEL, 10/3/85, [REDACTED]
ENTITLED [REDACTED] DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION".

[REDACTED] IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN PROBATED AND ON [REDACTED]
HIS PROBATION WAS REVOKED BUT NO FURTHER DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE.
THORNTON IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BAILED [REDACTED] OUT.

LEADS CHARLOTTE DIVISION AT FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA. WILL CONTACT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA, FOR FULL DETAILS REGARDING [REDACTED] REVIEW HIS MILITARY FILE AS AVAILABLE AND SET FORTH LEADS FOR HIS LOCATION AND INTERVIEW.

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PAGE THREE DE LS 011 UNCLAS

MIAMI DIVISION AT OAKLAND PARK, FLORIDA. WILL SUTEL RESULTS OF CRIMINAL CHECK REGARDING [REDACTED] AND FULL DETAILS OF HIS ARREST, ASSOCIATION, ETC., AS SET FORTH ABOVE.

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b7C

NEWARK DIVISION AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY. WILL FURNISH FULL INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO SA [REDACTED] AND OR HIS SOURCE REGARDING [REDACTED] AND IF APPROPRIATE SET FORTH LEADS FOR HIS INTERVIEW.

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BT

011

NNNN

Memorandum



To : SAC, Louisville (12G-303)

Date 10/25/85

From : SAC, Memphis (12G-New)

Subject : ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS (G)
OO: LOUISVILLE

Enclosed for Louisville is a copy of a two-page report from [redacted] of the Alabama Department of Public Safety. [redacted] is of the opinion that the information in the enclosed report relates to captioned case. [redacted] is assigned to ALABAMA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION office, Florence, Alabama.

b6
b7c

② - Louisville *mk*
2 - Memphis
KQB:jls
(4)

12G-303-52

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>Cal</i>	FILED <i>Cal</i>
OCT 28 1985	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

AM

CEO 010 302 0130Z

RR KY LS

DE CE

R 28 0130Z OCT 85

FM CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (P)

TO KNOXVILLE ROUTINE

LOUISVILLE (12D-303) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III; NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LOUISVILLE

RE LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO CHARLOTTE, OCTOBER 25, 1985; TELEPHONE
CALLS BETWEEN KNOXVILLE AND FAYETTEVILLE RESIDENT AGENCIES, OCTOBER 25,
1985.

LEAD SET FORTH FOR CHARLOTTE IN REFERENCED TELETYPE WAS REQUESTED
AND REPORTED ORALLY PER REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALLS. FAYETTEVILLE DUTY
AGENT UNAWARE OF THIS AND WHEN REFERENCED TELETYPE RECEIVED FRIDAY
EVENING, ARMY CID AT FORT BRAGG, DUTY AGENT, WAS CONTACTED AND HE
COMMENCED THIS INVESTIGATION DE NOVO AS HE WAS UNAWARE OF PRIOR
INVESTIGATION ON SAME DATE.

AT CID MEETING OCTOBER 28, 1985, THE COMMANDING OFFICER COLONEL
BURCH BECAME AWARE THAT CID WAS REQUESTED TELEPHONICALLY BY FBI

COPIES	✓
R	✓
E	✓
MS	✓

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 28 1985	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

12D-303-53

PAGE TWO CE 12G-533 UNCLAS

KNOXVILLE, FBI FAYETTEVILLE, DEA KNOXVILLE AND AGAIN IN PERSON BY FBI FAYETTEVILLE FOR THE SAME INFORMATION. ASSISTANT OPERATIONS OFFICER [REDACTED] CID, ADVISED THE FOLLOWING ON OCTOBER 28, 1985.

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] COMMENCED [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SCHOOL AT THE [REDACTED] IN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BUT WAS PULLED OUT OF CLASS ON [REDACTED] WHEN THE ARMY
COULD NOT VERIFY HIS CLEARANCE.

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] WAS BILLETED AND STILL IS REGISTERED AT ROOM [REDACTED] IN
[REDACTED] AND IS SUPPOSEDLY "HANGING AROUND" IN
ANTICIPATION OF STARTING THE CLASS OVER [REDACTED] THE ONLY
PAPERWORK [REDACTED] COULD LOCATE WAS THE ORDERS FOR [REDACTED]
ATTENDANCE AT THE SCHOOL AND [REDACTED] RECOMMENDED THAT THE CONTROL
GROUP OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, BE CONTACTED FOR [REDACTED] PERSONNEL

b6
b7C

FILE. [REDACTED] SAID THAT HE HAS TALKED TO SECRETARIES OVER AT THE
SCHOOL AND FEW OF THEM KNOW [REDACTED] PERSONALLY AND HOLD HIM IN
HIGH REGARD AND BELIEVE IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THEY MIGHT ADVISE HIM THAT
ARMY CID HAS BEEN MAKING INQUIRIES CONCERNING HIM. WHEN [REDACTED] IS
LOCATED, [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE PLANS ON CALLING SA [REDACTED] DEA
KNOXVILLE, TELEPHONE [REDACTED] AND ALSO AN FBI AGENT.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

BT

CE 12G-533
SEP:alm

1

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [] at Raleigh, North Carolina:

On October 22, 1985, [] FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA), Raleigh, North Carolina, telephone number [] advised the investigation regarding the crash of a Sesna 404 Twin Engine which occurred on September 11, 1985, was primarily handled by [] of the NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD (NTSB), Atlanta, Georgia. [] advised the crash occurred on Wednesday, and the NTSB investigators arrived on the scene Thursday. [] stated his office did not respond to the crash site until Monday of the following week and upon arriving at the site observed that the navigational instruments and radios had been stripped from the airplane. [] advised the FAA is primarily interested in examining navigational aids and pilot and maintenance records. Due to the condition of the aircraft, a very limited investigation was conducted, and no report was compiled by the FAA regarding the crash.

[] advised [] can be reached at the NTSB Office, Atlanta, Georgia, telephone number []

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12-303-54

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/28/85

TO: SAC, ATLANTA

FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON
 NARCOTICS MATTER

(OO: LOUISVILLE)

Re Charlotte airtel to Louisville dated 10/6/85, and
 Louisville teletype to Charlotte, et al, dated 9/25/85.

Enclosed for Louisville are the original and two
 copies of an investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted
 at Raleigh, North Carolina.

For information of Atlanta, on October 22, 1985, [redacted]
 [redacted] FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA), Raleigh, North
 Carolina, telephone number [redacted] advised his office
 conducted a very limited investigation of the crash of a Sesna
 404 Twin Engine airplane which occurred on September 11, 1985.
 [redacted] advised his investigation was conducted several days
 after the accident, and the bulk of the investigation was
 conducted by [redacted] NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
 (NTSB), Atlanta, Georgia, telephone number [redacted]
 [redacted] advised [redacted] should be able to provide a detail report
 regarding investigation of the plane crash.

LEAD:ATLANTA:AT ATLANTA, GEORGIA

2 - Atlanta
 ② - Louisville (Encls. 3) MK
 1 - Charlotte

SEP:alm
 (5)

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____
 (Number) (Time)

12-303-55
 SEARCHED RM INDEXED
 SERIALIZED RM FILED RM

OCT 30 1985

★ U.S. Government Printing Office: 1984-431-613/6249

FBI-LOUISVILLE

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 b7c

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date _____

CE 12G-533

Will contact [] NTSB, Atlanta, Georgia,
telephone number [] and obtain his report of the crash
of a Sesna 404 Twin Engine airplane which occurred on September 11,
1985, and thereafter furnish the report to Mobile.

b6
b7cCHARLOTTE:AT CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

Since no further investigation is being conducted
in the Charlotte Division, this matter is being placed in an
RUC status.

2*

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
(Number) (Time)

memorandum

DATE: 10/30/85

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

SUPV. [REDACTED]

SUBJECT:

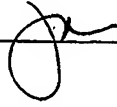
SAC AUTHORITY
CONSENSUAL MONITORING
OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS

TO:

SAC, LOUISVILLE (66-2426A)

b6
b7C

This is to confirm SAC authority to monitor
conversations between [REDACTED], who has
furnished either oral or written consent, and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. AUSA [REDACTED] concurs in the use of
this technique and his opinion being confirmed in writing.

b6
b7CSAC approval _____
1 - 66-2426A
① - 12D-303

(CASE FILE)

WWW:jaa

(2) *jaa*

12-303-56

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>cd</i>	FILED <i>cd</i>
OCT 30 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	
<i>TH</i>	

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/31/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)
 FROM: SAC, MIAMI (190-808) (RUC)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
 NARCOTICS MATTER
 OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Louisville teletype dated 10/25/85.

Enclosed for Louisville is offense report number OP82-617, obtained from BROWARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, on 10/23/85.

On 10/23/85, IA [redacted] was advised by the Clerk of the Court, Broward County, Florida, that subject was found guilty, adjudication was withheld and he was placed on three years probation. On 5/20/83, a warrant was issued for subject for breaking his probation.

On 10/23/85, a check of the warrant section, BROWARD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a central repository for criminal warrants within Broward County, Florida, failed to reflect any active warrant for subject.

No further investigation is being conducted by the Miami Division.

② - Louisville (Enc. 1)
 1 - Miami
 MHG/cms
 (3)

Approved: Transmitted 

(Number)

12D-303-57

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 04 1985	

(Time)

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b6
 b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

10/22/85

Date of transcription

1

[redacted] Deputy, HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, Raeford, North Carolina, telephone number [redacted] was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] who identified himself as a Special Agent of the FBI. [redacted] provided the following information:

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b7C

[redacted] stated that he has worked a case for approximately two to three years on GENE PAUL THACKER, who runs a local parachute school/club called RAEFORD AVIATION, Rural Route 1, Raeford, North Carolina. [redacted] stated THACKER has connections with the Golden Knights Parachute Team with the U. S. Army at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and leads a "charmed" life. Most recently, THACKER was brought up on charges in Florida for narcotics trafficking, but beat the conviction based on character references when the Golden Knights appeared and testified on his behalf during the trial.

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b7C

[redacted] stated the entire trial involved 30 plus people, and every one of them pled guilty except for THACKER who decided to go to court to combat the charges. [redacted] stated that the RAEFORD AVIATION CLUB has not been making a profit, and GENE PAUL THACKER is widely known in the Raeford area for trafficking by air narcotics into the Hoke County area.

[redacted] stated that a Twin Comanche airplane is in a hanger at the RAEFORD AVIATION airport right now, and this plane belongs to THACKER. The plane was originally sold to [redacted] who is employed as a [redacted]. The plane registry is 7905Y and has passed all paperchecks. [redacted] stated the plane once belonged to another individual and sat there for a great deal of time, but disappeared most recently and then reappeared with paperwork in the name of THACKER and is currently stored at THACKER's hanger. The plane is described as white with blue trim and is still registered to a deceased person named JAMES E. FLOYD who died on February 19, 1980. [redacted] stated that a North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Special Agent named [redacted] has a more conclusive file on THACKER.

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Investigation on 10/17/85 at Fayetteville, N. C. File # CE 12G-533

LS 100-303-58

by SA [redacted] /lbi Date dictated 10/21/85

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b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

10/22/85

1

Date of transcription _____

[redacted] North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Law Enforcement Center, Dick Street, Fayetteville, North Carolina, telephone number [redacted] was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Special Agent [redacted] identified himself as a Special Agent of the FBI, where the following information was supplied:

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[redacted] stated that [redacted] a Special Agent with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, is currently the Case Agent of an investigation involving GENE PAUL THACKER. THACKER owns a sky diving club in Raeford, North Carolina, which has seen two or three people killed in sky diving accidents. United States Customs and Drug Enforcement Agency Task Force encountered a slow flying airplane coming from the Miami Florida area over northern Florida and followed it into the Hoke County Airport which is managed by THACKER. Authorities, upon initial inspection of the airplane, uncovered 1,000 pounds of marijuana and a palm print on an auxiliary gas tank made of stainless steel which belonged to THACKER. North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation did not indict THACKER because Jacksonville Florida indicted him on conspiracy charges in Florida. [redacted] stated THACKER beat the conviction in a jury trial in which Special Agent [redacted] of the FDLE was the Case Agent. [redacted] can be reached at telephone number [redacted] for details of the THACKER case.

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[redacted] stated that [redacted] State Bureau of Investigation, Special Operations, has a case involving parachute rigging from the Mount Airy North Carolina area, and is currently investigating [redacted]

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[redacted] which is an address that adjoins the airfield run by THACKER in Hoke County. [redacted] stated the [redacted] address is [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] may be able to furnish information regarding parachute clubs and parachutes that may have been used in drug running efforts by THACKER in the Hoke County area.

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Investigation on 10/17/85 at Fayetteville, N. C. File # LS 120-303-59
CE 12G-533
by SA [redacted] *map* lbi Date dictated 10/21/85

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/22/85

[redacted] Special Agent, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Post Office Box 1382, Lillington, North Carolina, telephone [redacted] was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] who identified himself and made known the purpose for the interview where the following information was supplied:

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[redacted] stated he has an extensive ongoing investigation involving GENE PAUL THACKER since 1,000 pounds of marijuana was seized on a runway which THACKER manages at the RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION, Hoke County, Raeford, North Carolina, and shortly thereafter received telephone calls from Lexington, Kentucky, from a Federal Probation Officer named [redacted] telephone number [redacted] in which [redacted] inquired if a parolee named ANDREW CARTER THORNTON could use the RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION airport for parachute practice. On three separate occasions, THORNTON stayed at the HOLIDAY INN in Maxton near Lumberton, North Carolina. Each time he was given permission by the HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT to utilize the airport. Currently, the airport is run by a joint city-county field maintenance crew under the management of GENE THACKER, and is sometimes the place of employment for

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[redacted] and [redacted] a known cocaine dealer locally, is also an associate of THACKER and has been seen on more than one occasion driving a truck in the Raeford area near the airport.

[redacted] stated that THACKER and his business associates have set up a basis for communications on the eastern seaboard. RAEFORD AVIATION has been raided for drug runs by the HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT on numerous occasions, but almost always comes up empty. On one such occasion, HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT and the State Bureau of Investigation encountered [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] date of birth [redacted] residing at [redacted]

[redacted] who was caught [redacted] at the RAEFORD AVIATION airport and informed investigating officers that he was waiting for GENE PAUL THACKER. A preliminary search of the airport uncovered a single engine Cessna 172 but raiding officers neglected to copy down the tail registry number. [redacted] stated this raid occurred on November 23, 1983.

Investigation on 10/17/85 at Fayetteville, N. C. File # LS 120-303-60
CE 12G-533

SA [redacted] lbi Date dictated 10/21/85

b6
b7C

CE 12G-533

Continuation of FD-302 of

10/17/85

2

, On , Page

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that a few days later, [redacted] State Bureau of Investigation, Richmond County, North Carolina, spotted a PA23 Piper Aztec airplane, registration number N4749P, which was stripped down and according to [redacted] did not look right. [redacted] advised [redacted] that the plane was a hollow shell except for seats and auxiliary gas tanks, which is consistent for drug running aircraft. That same airplane was again spotted by Customs Agent [redacted] telephone [redacted] when it landed at Fort Pierce, Florida. [redacted] approached the pilot, who he identified as a [redacted]. Through observation, [redacted] was described as short with short dark hair and appeared to be on the heavy side. [redacted] could furnish no positive identification and advised [redacted] that he had purchased the airplane in North Carolina and was going to use it in the Bahamas as a shuttle service. [redacted] possessed a pilot's license and was an illegal alien, and had in his possession \$1,000 in cash and took off the following morning.

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On November 26, 1983, Florida Air Defense picked up a slow moving target and Florida Customs scrambled a King Air airplane which intercepted a light fixed wing twin engine airplane without lights. The King Air from Customs could not put identification on the flying aircraft so a Cobra gunship was scrambled out of Florida and identified the airplane as having registration number 4749P, which was the PA23 Piper Aztec identified by [redacted] in Richmond County, North Carolina, as a stripped down drug aircraft. The flight of the plane came toward Florida, and made an abrupt cut up to the Carolinas and circled Florence, South Carolina, for approximately one hour. The airplane then cut out of the circle and went directly to Raeford, North Carolina. North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and Hoke County Sheriff's Deputies were scrambled to the RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION in Hoke County, North Carolina, and spotted the aircraft landing on the runway. The Cobra helicopter was low on fuel and diverted to Fayetteville, North Carolina, but the King Air remained on surveillance but was afraid to land on the airfield because there was not enough room once the suspect plane had landed and remained in the middle of the runway. The King Air Customs pilot also was concerned about Fort Bragg restricted areas and was concerned about flying over restricted areas in order to approach from the opposite direction. Upon interception by investigating Agents, there were no persons around the plane, but GENE PAUL THACKER's palm print was found on an auxiliary fuel tank on the side which could have only been put there by someone installing that tank. Investigating Agents confiscated 1,000 pounds of marijuana, and a short while later THORNTON's Probation Officer began calling to set up scheduling which would allow THORNTON to practice his sky diving jumps.

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b7C

CE 12G-533

10/17/85

3

Continuation of FD-302 of _____, On _____, Page _____

b6
b7C

_____ stated he physically put THORNTON with a group of jumpers at RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION, but all THORNTON did was sky dive.

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b7C

_____ stated the original broker for the Piper Aztec which landed at the RAEFORD AVIATION AIRPORT was MID-SOUTH AVIATION, 2787 North Second Street, Memphis, Tennessee, 38127, and their registry for the Piper Aztec was N4749P. The name which appeared on the registry was _____.

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b7C

_____ stated that a man in the federal prison system named _____ has all the background on THACKER's planes and wanted to talk to federal investigators in order for him to receive preferential treatment. _____ telephone number _____ from _____ would be the person to contact regarding information that _____ may have regarding THACKER. _____ NADDIS number is _____. The arresting agent for _____ was a DEA Agent who was involved in a task force matter. _____ is this DEA Agent.

b6
b7C

_____ stated that currently a twin Bonanza Beechcraft twin 50 airplane, registry number 4357D, is in the hanger at the RAEFORD AVIATION AIRPORT in Hoke County, and was previously owned by THACKER. This plane was seized in Florida with a load of cocaine and bought by THACKER through a brokerage company and brought back to North Carolina. Preliminary inspection by Hoke County authorities indicated the plane was a drug plane due to its stripped down condition.

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b7C

Lieutenant _____ CUMBERLAND COUNTY IDENTIFICATION DIVISION, Fayetteville, North Carolina, telephone number _____ advised _____ that _____ who was a certified flight instructor, was doing commercial flying for THACKER for some time, but according to street word is missing due to crashing his airplane in a South American flight for THACKER. THACKER denies any knowledge of _____ and his demise.

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_____ furnished to Special Agent _____ the following:

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A photograph of GENE PAUL THACKER dated May 2, 1984.

A copy of local Raeford newspaper article regarding GENE PAUL THACKER with corresponding photograph.

A copy of Temporary Airmen certificate number _____ belonging to _____.

b6
b7C

Toll records for telephone numbers 919/875-3261 and 919/875-9328 for the year 1983 for RAEFORD AVIATION.

CE 12G-533

10/17/85

4

b6

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On

, Page

b7C

Copy of report involving Hoke County Sheriff's Department and North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation Task Force investigation of Piper Aztec, registration number N4749P, in which 1,000 pounds of marijuana was confiscated when seized at the RAEFORD AIRPORT in Hoke County, North Carolina.

Through observation by [REDACTED] GENE PAUL THACKER is described as follows:

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b7C

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	June 21, 1931
Place of Birth	Canada, Kentucky
Height	5'9"
Weight	180 pounds
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Gray
Scars/Tattoos	Tattoos on both arms; ten inch scar on right arm
Complexion	Fair
Address	Rural Route 1 Raeford, North Carolina (at airport) Hoke County, North Carolina
Employment	Self employed
Driver's License	North Carolina 2323731
Social Security Number	405-38-8786
Marital Status	Married
Wife	[REDACTED]

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b7C

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/22/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)
 FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (P)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III;
 NARCOTICS MATTER

OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Louisville teletype to Charlotte, 9/25/85, and telephone conversation between SA [redacted] Fayetteville Resident Agency, and SA [redacted] Louisville, Kentucky, on 10/18/85.

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Enclosed for Louisville are the following items:

1. Original and two copies of FD-302 interview of [redacted] Deputy, HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, Raeford, N. C., along with Agent's notes of interview.
2. Original and two copies of FD-302 interview of [redacted] Supervisor, Narcotics Division, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Fayetteville, N. C., along with Agent's notes of interview.
3. Original and two copies of FD-302 interview of [redacted] Special Agent, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Lillington, N. C., along with Agent's notes of interview.
4. One photograph of GENE PAUL THACKER, along with a copy of a newspaper article with a picture of THACKER.

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@ - Louisville (Encs. 9)
 2 - Charlotte
 MAP:lbi
 (4)

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT(S) ENCLOSED
 DO NOT DESTROY

Approved:

RLP/SAS

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

120-303-61
 SEARCHED INDEXED
 SERIALIZED FILED
 NOV 4 1985
 U.S. Government Printing Office: 1984-431-613/6249

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date _____

CE 12G-533

5. Certified true copy of Temporary Airman certificate number [redacted] belonging to [redacted].
6. Cover letter and toll records for telephone numbers 919/875-3261 and 919/875-9328 for RAEFORD AVIATION.
7. FD-192 Bulky Sheet setting forth evidence for office of origin (toll records).
8. Copy of report from North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT Task Force joint investigation of Piper Aztec airplane that was confiscated with 1,000 pounds of marijuana at the RAEFORD AVIATION AIRPORT in Hoke County, N. C., on 11/26/83.
9. FD-597 regarding receipt of toll records.

Interview of [redacted] HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, Raeford, N. C., revealed that GENE PAUL THACKER is the Manager of the RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION in Hoke County, N. C., and was involved in a drug conspiracy case and indicted in Jacksonville, Florida, in November, 1983.

[redacted] verified that THACKER does have affiliations with the Golden Knights of Fort Bragg, N. C., and a known drug transporting airplane was seized at RAEFORD AVIATION and confiscated by Task Forces of the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation and HOKE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT, along with 1,000 pounds of marijuana on 11/26/83.

[redacted] Supervisor, Narcotics Division, State Bureau of Investigation, Fayetteville, N. C., verified that North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation has ongoing drug investigations involving GENE PAUL THACKER, and during the 1983

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date _____

CE 12G-533

investigation involving the confiscation of an airplane and 1,000 pounds of marijuana, a palm print was taken off of a stainless steel auxiliary gas tank which belonged to GENE PAUL THACKER, but THACKER was never indicted in Fayetteville, but this information was part of an indictment in Jacksonville, Florida, where THACKER was charged with conspiracy.

_____ Special Agent, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Lillington, N. C., has had active ongoing investigation on GENE PAUL THACKER for about two or three years. _____ was present during confiscation of airplane found at RAEFORD AVIATION CORPORATION and followed closely the trial proceedings in Jacksonville, Florida. _____ was approached by ANDREW THORNTON's Probation Officer from Lexington, Kentucky, named _____ about utilization of RAEFORD AVIATION for sky diving practice. _____ identified THORNTON as well as a group of other individuals taking sky diving lessons from THACKER at RAEFORD AVIATION as well as verifying that a current plane housed at RAEFORD AVIATION had previously belonged to THORNTON.

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b7CLEADS:CHARLOTTE DIVISIONAT FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.

Will, according to above-referenced telephone call, furnish background information on _____

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Will contact Security Supervisor, CAROLINA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, for toll records for telephone numbers 919/875-3261 and 919/875-9328 as well as 919/875-8865, upon receipt of Grand Jury subpoena from Louisville Division.

Investigation continuing.

3*

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- 1 -

Date of transcription 10/24/85

[redacted] Resident Agent in Charge,
 U. S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, Knoxville, Tennessee,
 served an administrative subpoena to [redacted]
 HOLIDAY INN, Alcoa Highway, Alcoa, Tennessee, for all records
 of guests staying at HOLIDAY INN, Alcoa Highway, Alcoa, Tennessee,
 during the months of August and September, 1985.

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A review of these records reflect the following persons
 were guests of the motel during the month of September, 1985
 and checked out of the motel on September 11, 1985, or September 12,
 1985:

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 9, 1985	[redacted]	[redacted]	September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 5, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985

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Investigation on 10/17/85 at Alcoa, Tennessee File # KX 149A-138

by IA [redacted] / dld Date dictated 10/21/85

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KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85 , Page - 2 -

ation of interview of

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 8, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 10, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 10, 1985

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KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDSOn 10/17/85Page - 3 -

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 9, 1985			September 10, 1985 b6 b7c
September 9, 1985			September 10, 1985
September 5, 1985			September 10, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
Not shown			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985

On 10/17/85

Page - 4 -

Continuation of interview of

Guest Name

Address

Departure

September 11,
1985

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September 11,
1985

September 12,
1985

September 12,
1985

September 12,
1985

September 12,
1985

September 12,
1985

September 12,
1985

KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

- 5 -

Continuation of interview of _____

, Page _____

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			10:43 AM, September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

. On 10/17/85

- 6 -

Continuation of interview of _____, Page _____

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

- 7 -

Continuation of interview of _____

Page _____

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDSOn 10/17/85, Page - 8 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985

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KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

Continuation of interview of _____

, Page - 9 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

Continuation of interview of _____

, Page - 10 -

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>	
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985	b6 b7c
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985 (?)	
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	

KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 10/17/85 , Page - 11 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 10/17/85 , Page - 12 -

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 13, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985

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KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 10/17/85 , Page -13-

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	b6 b7c
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 13, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 9, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	

KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

Continuation of interview of _____, Page - 14 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985

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b7c

KX 149A-138

HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

Page - 15 -

Continuation of interview of _____

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

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b7c

KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 10/17/85 , Page - 16 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 9, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985

b6
b7c

KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 10/17/85 , Page - 17 -

<u>Arrival</u> <u>Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>	
September 10, 1985			September 11 1985	b6 b7c
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	
September 10, 1985			September 11, 1985	
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985	

KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS

On 10/17/85

Page - 18 -

<u>Arrival Date</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Departure</u>
September 11, 1985			September 11, 1985
September 11, 1985			September 12, 1985

NO SHOWS AND CANCELLATIONS

<u>Scheduled to Arrive</u>	<u>Guest Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
September 11, 1985		(Party of two)
September 11, 1985		(Party of one)
September 11, 1985		(Party of one)
September 11, 1985		(Party of one)
September 11, 1985		
		(Party of one, cancellation)
September 11, 1985		(Party of one, cancellation)
September 11, 1985		(Party of one)
September 11, 1985		
		(Party of one, cancellation)

KX 149A-138

Continuation of interview of HOLIDAY INN RECORDS On 19/17/85 , Page - 19 -Scheduled
to ArriveGuest NameAddressSeptember 11,
1985

(Party of one)

September 11,
1985September 10,
1985

(Party of one)

September 9,
1985

(Party of two)

September 11,
1985

(Party of one)

September 11,
1985

(Party of one)

September 11,
1985September 11,
1985b6
b7C

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/28/85

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQUAD 8)

FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (149A-138) (P)

UNSUBS;

DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
TAIL NUMBER N551CC;

DAMV;

NARCOTICS;

(OO: ATLANTA)

Andrew Carter Thornton 126-303

Re Atlanta teletype to Knoxville, dated 10/10/85.

Enclosed for Atlanta and Louisville Divisions are two copies each of FD-302 reflecting investigation conducted by IA [redacted] at Alcoa, Tennessee, on 10/17/85.

For information of Louisville Division, referenced airtel requested Knoxville Division to determine subscriber to telephone number (615) 970-3060 in Maryville, Tennessee, which was called from the residence telephone of DAVID WILLIAMS at 6:53 PM, on 9/11/85. One Atlanta source has stated that WILLIAMS was scheduled to pick up ANDREW THORNTON at PEACHTREE-DEKALB AIRPORT on the evening of 9/11/85, and Atlanta believes the subscriber of this Maryville, Tennessee, number may have significant knowledge of or may have been involved with the THORNTON's/WILLIAMS' narcotics organization.

2 - Atlanta (Enc.-2)

② - Louisville (Enc.-2) *BE*

2 - Knoxville

RES:dld

(6)

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

Per

12-303-63

OCT 29 1985

[redacted]

(w/enc.)

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b7cb6
b7c

KX 149A-138

A review of the public source directories for Maryville, Tennessee, reflects telephone number (615) 970-3060 is assigned to the HOLIDAY INN, Alcoa Highway, Alcoa, Tennessee, which is located near the Knoxville Airport.

On 10/17/85, motel records for HOLIDAY INN, Alcoa Highway, were reviewed by DEA and FBI and a list of all guests staying at this motel during pertinent period of time was obtained.

Atlanta and Louisville being furnished copies of this information for whatever assistance it may be in captioned investigation.

170ZCH002103

R FOL

DE AT

R 201505Z NOV 85

FM ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQ 8)

311/0024

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

NOV 7, 1985

LOUISVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: GENERAL PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION/
ORGANIZED CRIME/NARCOTICS DIVISION.

SECTION ONE OF TWO
DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL N551CC, SERIAL 208-00017,
09/29/85, JENKINSBURG, GEORGIA; DAMV; NARCOTICS; OO: ATLANTA.
ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS(D); OO: LOUISVILLE.
(ATLANTA FILE 12D-738).

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO FBIHQ, OCTOBER 8, 1985; FBIHQ
TELCALL TO ATLANTA, NOVEMBER 6, 1985.

SET FORTH BELOW ARE SUMMARIES OF THE SABOTAGE AND NAR-
COTICS INVESTIGATIONS IN CAPTIONED MATTERS.

SABOTAGE INVESTIGATION:

SIA
ADU420
11-12-85
JP

1 126-303-64

ALL
CALL

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C/A

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PAGE TWO (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

EXAMINATION BY FBI LABORATORY OF FUEL SAMPLES AND EQUIPMENT FROM CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT SUBMITTED BY ATLANTA, THAT FUEL SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO IT BY CINCINNATI FROM THE XENIA, OHIO, FUEL CONTAMINATION ON THE WEEKEND OF SEPTEMBER 14 - 15, 1985, HAVE RESULTED IN AN INITIAL FINDING BY LABORATORY THAT NO SUGAR WAS FOUND IN ANY OF THE ITEMS SUBMITTED. LABORATORY HAS IDENTIFIED THE PRESENCE OF WATER, IRON, WHICH MAY HAVE COME FROM RUSTING FUEL DUMPS, AND OTHER SUBSTANCES, WHICH HAVE BEEN CALLED "UNCLASSIFIABLE". INDEPENDENT LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS OF FUEL SAMPLES BY CESSNA AIRCRAFT IN WHICHITA, KANSAS, PRATT & WHITNEY, MONTREAL, CANADA, AND LABORATORIES AT GEORGIA TECH, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HAVE ALSO FAILED TO FIND ANY PRESENCE OF SUGAR IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SAMPLES. WATER HAS BEEN FOUND IN THE SAMPLES IN VARIOUS PERCENTAGES.

INTERVIEWS OF YOUNG PETROLEUM, GRIFFIN, GEORGIA, PERSONNEL INVOLVED IN THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF THE FUEL BEING USED OVER THE WEEKEND OF THE CRASH OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT, ALONG WITH SAMPLES TAKEN FROM THE SUPPLIER, HAVE ELIMINATED THE SOURCE OF SUPPLY AS HAVING WATER CONTAMINATION. INTERVIEW AND POLYGRAPH OF INDIVIDUAL MAKING THE FUEL DELIVERY ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1985, HAS REVEALED THAT

PAGE THREE (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

HE DID NOT EMPTY ALL OF THE DRUMS PRIOR TO PUMPING FUEL INTO THEM. THE NINE FUEL DRUMS INVOLVED HAD ORIGINALLY BEEN DELIVERED FULL TO THE WESTWIND SPORTS PARACHUTE CENTER BY GRIFFIN PETROLEUM ON JULY 12, 1985, AND HAD BEEN LEFT UNATTENDED IN VARYING STAGES OF FULLNESS AT THAT LOCATION FROM THAT POINT IN TIME UNTIL THEY WERE REFUELED ON SEPTEMBER 26, 1985. THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE, ASHEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, HAS PROVIDED PRECIPITATION RECORDS TO SHOW THAT FROM JULY 12 - SEPTEMBER 26, 1985, AN EXCESS OF TWELVE INCHES OF RAIN FELL AT A MEASUREMENT STATION WEST OF WESTWIND, AND OVER NINE INCHES FELL AT A SIMILAR STATION EAST OF WESTWIND. MEASUREMENTS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OF THE DRUMS AND REVEALED THAT APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE QUARTER GALLONS OF WATER WILL ACCUMULATE ON TOP OF THE DRUMS BEFORE IT WILL OVERFLOW THE DRUMS RAISED LIP.

INTERVIEW OF PERSONNEL AT DOBBINS AIR FORCE BASE, MARIETTA, GEORGIA, HAS REVEALED A CONSTANT PROBLEM WITH WATER INFILTRATION OF DRUMS LEFT STANDING IN A VERTICAL POSITION OUT IN THE WEATHER. DAYTIME HEAT WILL CAUSE CONTENTS TO EXPAND, FORCING OUT AIR FROM INSIDE THE DRUMS, NIGHTTIME COOLING AND CONTRACTION CAUSES A VACUUM TO FORM WHICH RESULTS IN FLUIDS LEFT ON THE TOP OF THE DRUMS BEING SUCKED INTO THE DRUMS, WHETHER THE CAPS ON THE DRUM TOPS ARE SEALED

PAGE FOUR (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

WITH GASKETTS OR NOT.

INTERVIEWS OF WITNESSES HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT SOME OF THE DRUMS AT WESTWIND WERE LEFT IN VERTICAL POSITION, BUT HAVE FAILED TO ESTABLISH HOW MANY OR FOR HOW LONG.

INTERVIEWS OF WITNESSES AT XENIA, OHIO, HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT THE DRUMS USED AT THAT LOCATION WERE LEFT STANDING BEHIND AN outhouse FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, WERE HEARD TO CONTAIN AN UNKNOWN LIQUID, WERE APPARENTLY NOT EMPTIED PRIOR TO REFUELING, AND WERE NOT LOOKED INTO PRIOR TO REFUELING.

EXAMINATION OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFTS ENGINE BY PRATT & WHITNEY, MONTREAL, CANADA, REVEALED SOME CONTAMINATION OF THE ENGINE BUT NOT ENOUGH TO STOP THE FLOW OF FUEL TO THE ENGINE, ALONG WITH A FUEL SAMPLE THAT WAS 30 WATER. PRATT & WHITNEY ADVISES THAT A CONTROLLED 50 - 50 MIXTURE AND WATER WILL BURN IN THEIR ENGINE, BUT ESTIMATES VARY AS TO THE AMOUNT OF THE CONTINUOUS STREAM OF WATER NEEDED TO PUT THE FIRE IN A TURBOPROP OUT, RANGING FROM A CUP OR LESS BY CESSNA AIRCRAFT, TO ABOUT ONE PINT BY PRATT & WHITNEY. INTERVIEWS AT CESSNA HAVE REVEALED THAT THE PILOT OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT WOULD HAVE NO WARNING THAT THE ENGINE WAS ABOUT TO SHUT DOWN, AND THAT WHEN HE REALIZED THAT HE HAD A PROBLEM, WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN MORE CONCERNED,

PAGE FIVE (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

AT HIS ALTITUDE, APPROXIMATELY 500 FEET, AND WITH HIS LOAD, SIXTEEN SKYDIVERS, THAN WITH TRYING TO LAND THE AIRCRAFT.

MEASUREMENT OF THE WATER REMAINING IN THE NINE DRUMS IN FBI CUSTODY HAS ESTABLISHED QUANTITIES RANGING FROM ZERO TO JUST OVER ONE GALLON. FBI LABORATORY'S FINAL REPORT WILL INCLUDE THE QUANTITY OF WATER FOUND IN THE SAMPLE SUBMITTED TO IT. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT APPROXIMATELY THREE GALLONS OF WATER WERE TAKEN FROM ONE DRUM BEFORE A VALID SAMPLE COULD BE TAKEN ON OCTOBER 5, 1985.

INVESTIGATION TO DATE HAS INCLUDED THE INTERVIEW AND POLYGRAPH OF A [REDACTED] AT THE TIME OF THE CRASH, AS WELL AS THE INTERVIEW AND POLYGRAPH OF A PILOT FIRED FOR INCOMPETENCE BY WILLIAMS IN EARLY AUGUST, 1985. BOTH INDIVIDUALS PASSED THE POLYGRAPH. INTERVIEW OF OTHER GIRLFRIENDS, BUSINESS ASSOCIATES, ACQUAINTANCES, COMPETING PILOTS, RELATIVES, SKYDIVERS, AND NEIGHBORS OF THE WESTWIND SPORTS PARACHUTE CENTER, HAVE FAILED TO IDENTIFY ANYONE WHO DISLIKED WILLIAMS OR PERSONNEL AT THE PARACHUTE CENTER ENOUGH TO SABOTAGE WILLIAMS AIRCRAFT. NO WITNESSES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED TO ANY POSSIBLE SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT.

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PAGE SIX (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

ON NOVEMBER 6 1985, NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD (NTSB), ATLANTA, GEORGIA, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE WHEREIN THEY REPORTED TO THE MEDIA THE FINDINGS OF THE GEORGIA TECH LABORATORY EXAM ON SAMPLES THAT NTSB SUBMITTED TO THEM WHICH SHOWED THE PRESENCE OF WATER BUT NOT OF SUGAR.

ATLANTA DIVISION HAS SET FORTH LEADS TO INVESTIGATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE SUICIDE OF RONNIE REUTLINGER, A SKYDIVER FROM ORLANDO, FLORIDA, SHORTLY AFTER CAPTIONED CRASH, WHERE A NOTE WAS ALLEGEDLY LEFT STATING HE "COULDN'T HURT ANYONE ANYMORE". ATLANTA IS AWAITING THE COMPLETION OF THE LABORATORY EXAMS OF SAMPLES SUBMITTED, AND THE FOLLOWING REPORT BEFORE MAKING A FINAL DECISION ON NECESSITY OF ANY ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION REGARDING THE SABOTAGE OF CAPTIONED AIRCRAFT. ASSISTANCE OF THE VISUAL INVESTIGATIVE ANALYSIS GROUP, ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT, INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT SECTION, CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, WILL NOT BE NEEDED AT THIS TIME.

MARCOTICS SUMMARY:

ATLANTA AND NEW YORK AGENTS INTERVIEWED RUBEN SOTO IN BROOKLYN,

BT

UZCZC'002104

RR HQ LS

DT AT

R 081601Z NOV 85

FM ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQ 8)

311/0025

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

NOV 7, 1985

LOUISVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: GENERAL PROPERTY CRIMES SECTION/
ORGANIZED CRIME/NARCOTICS DIVISION.

SECTION TWO OF TWO

DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL N551CC, SERIAL

208-00017, SEPTEMBER 29, 1985, JENKINSBURG, GEORGIA;

DAMV; NARCOTICS; OO: ATLANTA.

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS(D); OO: LOUISVILLE.

NEW YORK, ON OCTOBER 12, 1985. DURING THIS INTERVIEW, SOTO,

SIGNED STATEMENT ADMITTING THE FOLLOWING:

SOTO HAD TRAVELLED TO ATLANTA TO MEET DAVID WILLIAMS ON
A COMMERCIAL AIRLINER ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1985 AT THE REQUEST OF
ANDREW THORNTON, AND AN INDIVIDUAL HE KNEW THROUGH THEIR MUTUAL

PAGE TWO (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

AVID INTEREST IN SKYDIVING. WILLIAMS, SOTO, AND ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL WERE TO ACT AS A GROUND CREW FOR A LOAD OF COCAINE THAT

WAS TO ARRIVE IN GEORGIA ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1985, IN AN AIRPLANE

PILOTED BY THORNTON. AT APPROXIMATELY 6:00 P.M., SEPTEMBER 10,

1985, THE THIRD MEMBER OF THE GROUND CREW, WHO ATLANTA DIVISION

BELIEVES WAS [REDACTED] ARRIVED AT WILLIAMS

RESIDENCE, WHERE SOTO AND WILLIAMS WERE WAITING. WILLIAMS AND

THIS INDIVIDUAL HAD A PRIVATE DISCUSSION AFTERWHICH THE INDIVIDUAL

DEPARTED AT APPROXIMATELY 6:45 P.M. SOTO AND WILLIAMS DROVE TO THE

WESTWIND SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB, BUTTS COUNTY, GEORGIA, WHICH WAS DE-

SIGNATED AS A PRIMARY OFF-LOAD SITE FOR THE COCAINE. THE ORIGINAL

PLAN WAS TO HAVE THORNTON LAND AT THE WESTWIND CLUB AT DUSK, AND

OFF-LOAD THE COCAINE. THE THIRD INDIVIDUAL WAS TO RECEIVE THE

COCAINE AND DELIVER IT TO A LOCATION UNKNOWN TO SOTO. SOTO AND

WILLIAMS WERE TO FOLLOW THE COCAINE AND INSURE THAT IT WAS BEING

PROTECTED. SOTO DID NOT KNOW THE AMOUNT OF THE COCAINE INVOLVED

OR ITS DESTINATION. FOR HIS PART IN THE SCHEME, SOTO WAS TO BE

PAID \$10,000.00. WILLIAMS AND SOTO ARRIVED AT WESTWIND AT APPROXI-

MATELY 7:45 P.M. THE THIRD MEMBER OF THE CREW WAS PARKED IN THE

WOODS NEAR THE PARACHUTE DROP ZONE. SOTO AND WILLIAMS WAITED AT

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PAGE THREE (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

WESTWIND UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 9:00 P.M. BY THAT TIME, IT APPEARED TO WILLIAMS THAT THORNTON HAD DECIDED TO BYPASS THE PRIMARY DROP ZONE AND FLY DIRECTLY TO THE SECONDARY DROP ZONE WHICH WAS AN ORCHARD ON A MOUNTAIN TOP IN NORTH GEORGIA. WILLIAMS AND THORNTONS BACKUP PLAN WAS TO FLY TO THE SECONDARY DROP ZONE WHERE THE SECOND INDIVIDUAL IN THORNTONS PLANE WOULD JUMP AND THORNTON WOULD DROP THE COCAINE BY PARACHUTE WHERE WILLIAMS, SOTO, AND THIS INDIVIDUAL WOULD PICK IT UP. SOTO AND WILLIAMS DROVE TO THIS SITE AFTER LEAVING WESTWIND AND ARRIVED THERE AT APPROXIMATELY 11:00 P.M. AFTER SEARCHING

THIS AREA FOR A SHORT TIME AND FINDING NO COCAINE OR PARACHUTES, WILLIAMS AND SOTO RETURNED TO WILLIAMS RESIDENCE IN ATLANTA.

SOTO SPENT THE FOLLOWING DAY AT WILLIAMS HOUSE AND, WHEN

WILLIAMS RETURNED FROM WORK AT APPROXIMATELY 5:30 P.M., ON SEPTEMBER 11, 1985, HE AND SOTO LEARNED OF THORNTONS DEATH

ON THE TELEVISION NEWS. WILLIAMS AND SOTO BECAME CONCERNED

OVER THIS AND DROVE IMMEDIATELY TO THE ATLANTA AIRPORT, WHERE-UPON SOTO BOARDED A COMMERCIAL AIRLINER AND RETURNED TO NEW YORK.

WILLIAMS PAID FOR SOTOS TICKET WITH HIS AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD. AFTER SOTO MADE THE ABOVE STATEMENT, [REDACTED]

PAGE FOUR (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

ON [REDACTED] WENT BEFORE THE FEDERAL
GRAND JURY IN [REDACTED] IN ANSWER TO A GRAND JURY SUBPOENA.
UPON THE ADVICE OF COUNSEL, [REDACTED] REFUSED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS RE-
GARDING [REDACTED]

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ON OCTOBER 23, 1985, SA [REDACTED] ATLANTA DIVISION,
TRAVELLED TO KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE TO PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE
HEADED BY AUSA [REDACTED] KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE. THE KNOXVILLE
OFFICE OF THE DEA HAS BEEN CONDUCTING A LARGE SCALE INVESTIGATION
CONCERNING THORNTONS COCAINE DISTRIBUTION NETWORK FOR SEVERAL
MONTHS. AT THIS CONFERENCE, AUSA [REDACTED] REQUESTED THAT ALL
NARCOTICS INFORMATION RE THORNTON BE TURNED OVER TO THE USA,
KNOXVILLE, FOR ULTIMATE PROSECUTION. DURING THIS CONFERENCE, IT WAS
REVEALED THAT [REDACTED] HAD TESTIFIED BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND
JURY, [REDACTED] AND HAD BEEN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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EXTENSIVE ATLANTA INVESTIGATION INTO THIS MATTER, INCLUDING
VARIAD INTERVIEWS WITH ASSOCIATES AND RELATIVES, INDICATES THAT
WILLIAMS ONLY BECAME INVOLVED WITH NARCOTICS IN THE VERY RECENT
PAST. INVESTIGATION HAS REVEALED THAT WILLIMAS HAD EMBEZZLED AP-
PROXIMATELY \$300,000.00 FROM HIS COMPANY, MID-STATES GROUP, IN ORDER

PAGE FIVE (AT 149A-703) UNCLAS

TO ALLEVIATE THE DEEP DEBT WHICH HIS FAST PACED LIFE STYLE AND RE-
CENT ACQUISITION OF A \$750,000.00 AIRPLANE CAUSED HIM. IT APPEARS
LIKELY THAT WILLIAMS WAS DRIVEN TO FINANCIAL DESPERATION AND SOUGHT
TO MAKE A SINGLE DRUG DEAL WITH ANDREW THORNTON TO BAIL HIMSELF OUT.

DUE TO THE EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED IN KNOXVILLE,
AND THEIR DESIRE TO PROSECUTE THE PRINCIPALS, ATLANTA DIVISION IN-
TENDS TO FORWARD THE RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION TO LOUISVILLE
FOR DISSEMINATION AS IS DEEMED APPROPRIATE. ATLANTA BELIEVES THAT
A MAJORITY OF THIS INVESTIGATION SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO AUSA
[REDACTED] KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE. AUSA [REDACTED] NDGA,
ATLANTA, GEORGIA, CONCURS WITH THIS RECOMMENDATION.

BT

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TO LOUISVILLE (120-303) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

ATLANTA (120-733) ROUTINE

OVILLE (120-377) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

MURDER CARTER THORNTON, II (DECEASED); NARCOTICS MATTER; OO:
LOUISVILLE.

RE ATLANTA TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU AND LOUISVILLE DATED
OCTOBER 8, 1985.

FOR INFORMATION OF THE BUREAU, ON NOVEMBER 6, 1985,

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE RECENTLY WAS IN RECEIPT OF INFORMATION
INDICATING THAT [REDACTED]

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CCJS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
R	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
E	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NE	<input type="checkbox"/>

12-303-65
Searched _____
Serialized Col
Indexed _____
Filed 6-2

PAGE TWO DE LG 611 UNCLAS

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LOUISVILLE WILL CONTINUE CONTACTS WITH THE SOURCE REGARDING
OTHER DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING ABOVE MENTIONED INCIDENT AND WILL
ADVISE INTERESTED OFFICES OF ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

BT

611

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE 12G-303

DATE: 12/6/85

FROM: *Wepu* SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (12G-395)

SUBJECT:

ANDREW CARTER THORTON II
(Title)☐ RUC
☒☐ File Destruction Program

Enclosed are 2 items.
These items are forwarded your office since:

☒ All logical investigation completed in this Division☐ You were OO at the time our case was RUC'd.
☒

Enclosures are described as follows:

1 Original FD 302 of [REDACTED]

1 Set of Interview notes of [REDACTED]

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b7DEnc. (2) (2) *11*

NOTE: DO NOT BLOCK STAMP ORIGINAL ENCLOSURES

126-303-67

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 09 1985	
LOUISVILLE	

[REDACTED] *(w/enc.)*

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TO: SAC, MOBILE

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738) (P) (SQ 6)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
NARCOTICS MATTER;
OO:LS

Re Charlotte airtel to Atlanta dated 10/28/85.

In referenced airtel Charlotte Division requested that Atlanta contact [REDACTED] FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA), Atlanta, Georgia, and request that a detailed copy of the FAA report concerning the crash of a Cessna 404 aircraft in North Carolina that occurred on 9/11/85, be forwarded to Mobile Division. [REDACTED] was contacted on 11/22/85, and he agreed to forward a copy of this report to the FBI Office in Mobile when the report was completed in approximately three months. [REDACTED] further stated that, because no one was injured in this crash, the report would be very short and cover only the cursory details of the crash.

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2 - Charlotte
② - Louisville
2 - Mobile
2 - Atlanta
CJJ:djs
(8)

1*

12G-303-68
DEC 19 1985

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FBI investigates plane crash and finds no sugar in fuel

ATLANTA (AP) — Although the FBI has nearly completed a probe into a plane crash that killed a pilot and 16 sky divers in Butts County, it has not found sugar in the plane's fuel as another federal agency did, a newspaper said.

An Atlanta Constitution story, appearing in today's editions, quoted unidentified sources as saying the exhaustive FBI probe has turned up no trace of sugar in the fuel supply of the Cessna 208 Caravan that crashed in Butts County on Sept. 29. Earlier tests by the National Transportation Safety Board found the contaminant in relatively large amounts.

The newspaper did say, however, that the FBI investigation confirmed the NTSB finding that water had mixed with the plane's fuel.

After being informed of the NTSB test results on Oct. 2, the Federal Bureau of Investigation opened a probe of its own into the possible sabotage of the plane.

A source told the newspaper that although there's "still

some remaining work to be done ... barring unforeseen developments or the emergence of some new information, it's going to come to a conclusion. There's no credible evidence that it was sabotage."

The Constitution quoted the source as saying the FBI has not determined why the plane nose-dived into a Jenkinsburg farm shortly after takeoff, killing the pilot and all 16 sky divers aboard. That conclusion, the source said, can only be made by the NTSB, which has nearly completed its own field investigation of the crash.

Phone calls by The Associated Press to the FBI's Atlanta office were not returned Tuesday night.

The Constitution quoted NTSB officials in Atlanta and in Washington as saying they had received no official laboratory report from the FBI and that they therefore they would not comment on the bureau's findings.

NTSB spokesman Ira Furman said it may be several months before the board issues a finding on the cause of the crash.

The FBI has conducted hundreds of interviews and has utilized a federal grand jury during the five weeks since the crash.

Most of its investigation has focused on David "Cowboy" Williams, an Atlanta real estate developer and pilot who owned the plane and used it on weekends to ferry parachutists.

Williams, who was flying the plane Sept. 29, was killed in the crash.

Because the FBI earlier said the plane might have been sabotaged, agents looked into Williams' private life, business dealings, sky diving competitors and his relationship with Andrew Carter Thornton II of Lexington, Ky. The two men were friends who sky-dived together occasionally.

Early in the morning of Sept. 11, Thornton parachuted to his death in Knoxville, Tenn. when his chute apparently malfunctioned. He was found with 79 pounds of cocaine strapped to his waist. Authorities have said they also have established links between Thornton and an additional 220 pounds of cocaine that was parachuted into north Georgia.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, a federal grand jury in Knoxville, and several Tennessee police departments are investigating Thornton's death and drug activities.

Several sources told the Constitution that despite the FBI's

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE MURRAY LEDGER & TIMES
MURRAY, KY., PAGE 11-A

Date: 11/06/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: FBI INVESTIGATES PLANE
CRASH AND FINDS NO SUGAR IN
FUEL

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office:

LS

Indexing:

126-303-69

SEARCHED <i>PC</i>	INDEXED <i>PC</i>
SERIALIZED <i>MTZ</i>	FILED <i>PC</i>
DEC 12 1985	
[Redacted Box]	

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COPY SENT BUREAU 12-12-85

preliminary conclusions about the Butts County plane crash, authorities continue to investigate links between Williams and Thornton. and the NTSB), hither does not have its own and yon, well, that's "chemical capabilities" possible. But that's con- and contracts all fuel versation; it's not a analysis to labs, he said. report." Although the fuel

The newspaper quoted sources as saying the FBI's lab scientists in Washington found no sugar, also known as sucrose, in fuel samples taken from Williams' plane and the 55-gallon drums at the West Wind Sport Parachute Center in Jenkinsburg, where Williams last fueled his plane. According to Golden, the NTSB fuel analysis was conducted by an unidentified independent laboratory in Atlanta, which he would name. The NTSB Wind cannisters. FBI were different from those tested by the NTSB, they were taken from the same place, the plane and the West

Even though the FBI tests did find excess water in both the plane's fuel and the fuel in the drums, investigators have no reason to believe that the water was added to the fuel deliberately, one source told the Constitution. The same source said the water could have accumulated in the fuel drums through leaks and seepage during the rainy summer.

NTSB spokesman Furman said his agency's tests of fuel taken from the plane's right tank showed an average of 5 percent water in each sample. The water solution included 2 percent sucrose, Furman said.

Jay Golden, chief of the NTSB's Atlanta field division, said: "I have not seen the FBI report. If there was conversation (between the FBI

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) B-2

THE COURIER JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY

Date: 11/6/85

Edition:

METRO EDITION

Title: FBI crash probe
reportedly finds no sugar
in fuel line of sky diver's
Character: plane

or

Classification:

Submitting Office:

Indexing:

126 - 303-70

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 12 1985	
FBI - LV	

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b7C

COPY SENT BUREAU 12-12-85

FBI crash probe reportedly finds no sugar in fuel of sky divers' plane

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Preliminary results from an FBI investigation into a plane crash that killed a pilot and 16 sky divers in September do not confirm an earlier probe that found sugar in the plane's fuel supply, a newspaper said.

A story in today's Atlanta Constitution quotes unidentified sources as saying the nearly completed FBI investigation has turned up no trace of sugar in the fuel of the Cessna 208 Caravan that crashed in Butts County on Sept. 29.

Earlier tests by the National Transportation Safety Board found the contaminant in relatively large amounts.

The FBI tests did, however, find excess water in the plane's fuel and in fuel-storage drums, but investigators have no reason to believe the water was added to the fuel deliberately, one source told the newspaper.

The same source said the water could have accumulated in the fuel drums through leaks and seepage during the rainy summer.

The NTSB's tests of fuel taken from the plane's right tank showed an average of 5 percent water in each sample, according to NTSB spokesman Ira Furman. The water solution included 2 percent sucrose, Furman said.

The fuel samples tested by the FBI were different from those tested by the NTSB, but they were taken from the same places, the plane and 55-gallon drums at the West Wind Sport Parachute Center in Jenkinsburg, where the plane was refueled.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation opened an intensive investigation into the possible sabotage of the plane after being informed of the NTSB test results on Oct. 2.

NTSB officials in Atlanta and in Washington told the newspaper yesterday that they have received no official laboratory report from the FBI and that they therefore would not comment on the bureau's findings.

Furman said it may be several months before the board rules on the cause of the crash.

The FBI has conducted hundreds

of interviews and has used a federal grand jury during the five weeks since the crash. Most of its investigation has focused on David "Cowboy" Williams, an Atlanta real-estate developer and pilot who owned the plane and used it on weekends to ferry parachutists.

Williams, who was flying the plane Sept. 29, was killed in the crash.

FBI agents have looked into Williams' private life, business dealings, sky-diving competitors and his relationship with reputed cocaine smuggler Andrew Carter Thornton II.

Thornton, of Lexington, Ky., parachuted to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., on Sept. 11. He was found with about 75 pounds of cocaine strapped to his waist. Authorities have said they also have established links between Thornton and an additional 220 pounds of cocaine that was parachuted into North Georgia.

A federal grand jury in Knoxville, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and several Tennessee police departments are investigating Thornton's death and drug activities.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) B-1099
THE COURIER JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY

Date: 11/7/85
Edition:

METRO

Title: Crashed plane's fuel
had sugar-like substance

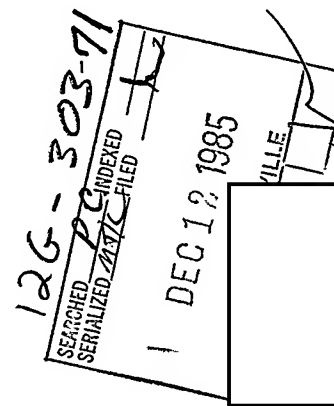
Character:

or

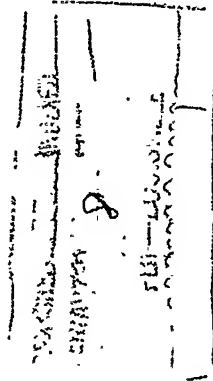
Classification:

Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:



BUREAU 12-12-85



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Crashed plane's fuel had sugar-like substance

By MARC RICE
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Tests have shown that sugar was not present in the fuel of an airplane that crashed Sept. 29, killing a pilot and 16 parachutists, a National Transportation Safety Board official said yesterday.

However, board investigator Preston Hicks said that a substance similar to sugar was in the fuel and that the fuel in part of the plane's engine contained about 36 percent water.

Hicks, announcing the latest findings from the investigation into the crash in Butts County, Ga., refused at a news conference to draw any conclusions on whether sabotage had occurred. He said authorities still have not determined the cause of the crash.

An initial fuel test conducted for the safety board indicated some sug-

ar was in the fuel. Because of that, authorities investigating the crash suggested the plane could have been sabotaged.

Hicks said that the FBI was brought into the case after a fuel analysis performed by an independent laboratory indicated that sugar and a small amount of water were in the fuel.

The board then took the samples to Georgia Tech for "additional, more sensitive testing that was beyond the capacity of the first laboratory," Hicks said.

He said the Georgia Tech test found a compound chemically similar to sugar, but no real sugar. The identity of this compound has not been determined, he said.

Hicks also said that investigators found about 36 percent water in the fuel from the fuel-control unit of the

engine from the downed Cessna 208 Caravan.

"There should be no water in the unit," he said. "At what point the level of water will adversely affect the engine, I can't say that."

The Atlanta Constitution reported yesterday that tests by the FBI laboratory had found no trace of sugar in the fuel, but did find water in it.

The newspaper quoted a source as saying that the FBI had found "no credible evidence that it was sabotage."

The FBI declined to comment on the report. Hicks said that safety board officials have not seen the FBI laboratory reports and would not comment on them.

Most of the FBI investigation has focused on David "Cowboy" Williams, an Atlanta real-estate devel-

oper who owned the plane and was one of the victims.

Williams had sky-dived with Andrew Carter Thornton II, who fell to his death Sept. 11 in Knoxville, Tenn., when a parachute malfunctioned. Thornton, a former police officer in Lexington, Ky., was found with about 75 pounds of cocaine strapped to his waist.

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation, meanwhile, said yesterday that a fourth duffel bag of cocaine has been found in a wooded area of Fannin County.

The bureau said authorities believe the new bag is linked to the one found on Thornton.

The bag of 75 pounds of cocaine found Tuesday is also similar to three other duffel bags found in Fannin County several weeks ago containing a total of 220 pounds of cocaine, said Mike Carothers of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation.

The latest duffel bag, like the others, was found in Chattahoochee National Forest by a U.S. Forest Service worker, Carothers said.

Carothers declined to say whether the latest bag was attached to a parachute, as the other three were.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

12/17/85

Date of transcription

[redacted] Security Supervisor, CAROLINA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, Tarboro, North Carolina, telephone number [redacted] was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] who identified himself as a Special Agent of the FBI and who made known the purpose for being there. In accordance with Eastern District of North Carolina Grand Jury subpoena issued November 12, 1985, [redacted] furnished the following:

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Toll record information concerning ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III, associate of GENE PAUL THACKER, Manager of RAEFORD AVIATION, Raeford, North Carolina, on telephone numbers 919/875-3261, 919/875-9328, as well as 919/875-8865, for the period January 1, 1985 through the present.

[redacted] stated that telephone number 919/875-9328 is a telephone booth located outside of RAEFORD AVIATION. The toll records for the telephone booth are in a code which must be deciphered by a supervisory personnel for CAROLINA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH's Security Division. [redacted] stated that the following information is a CAROLINA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH identification of telephone numbers called utilizing the telephone booth outside of RAEFORD AVIATION. [redacted] stated the first four digits represent the date; an example being 0105 as January 5, 1985. [redacted] stated the zero should be ignored because it divides the two columns. The next four digits are revenue on the call; an example 01050260 is equivalent to \$2.60. The next three digits are tax on the call. The next seven digits represent the number subpoenaed and the next two digits represent the length of the call in minutes. The next three digits are accounting designation on calls which would represent a.m. or p.m. The next seven digits is the number called by the party representing date and time. The next four digits is the time of day the call took place and the place called. The last four digits represent the total of the cost of the call with the second column starting another series of phone calls.

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Investigation on 11/14/85 at Fayetteville, N. C. File # CE 12G-533
LS 12G-303-72
 by SA [redacted] lbi Date dictated 11/18/85

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CE 12G-533

Continuation of FD-302 of

[Redacted]

, On 11/14/85 , Page 3

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[Redacted]

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436-2919
Sport Parachute Club
82nd Airborne Division
Building 1 ET-3826
Fort Bragg, North Carolina

485-4126
Castle Uniforms
Bordeaux Shopping Center
Fayetteville, North Carolina

[Redacted]

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b7C

844-3601
Gulledge Aviation, Inc.
Laurinburg-Maxton Airport
RFD2 Box 69
Maxton, North Carolina

[Redacted]

b6
b7C

CE 12G-533

Continuation of FD-302 of

, On 11/14/85 , Page 4

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b7C

864-1526
Raeford Road Animal Hospital
Highway 401 South (Lake Rim)
Fayetteville, North Carolina

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b7C

867-3372
MC CROY's DEPARTMENT STORE
Cross Creek Mall
Fayetteville, North Carolina

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b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 12/19/85

[redacted] Special Agent, North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, Post Office Box 1382, Wilmington, North Carolina, telephone number [redacted] was contacted by Special Agent [redacted] who identified himself as a Special Agent of the FBI and made known to [redacted] the purpose for the interview, where the following information was supplied:

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[redacted] stated he has only limited information regarding [redacted]. Although [redacted] has no current criminal record, he is in [redacted] and usually fills in for any drug transactions when [redacted] cannot make an appointment.

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[redacted] advised that the 1,000 pounds of marijuana that was seized at the RAEFORD AIRPORT was actually a transaction instituted and was primarily the responsibility of [redacted] is [redacted] who is married to [redacted]. Currently, [redacted] is living [redacted] and only is described as a [redacted] in his early to mid-[redacted].

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Investigation on 12/9/85 at Fayetteville, N. C. File # CE 12G-533
mlp
by SA [redacted] lbi Date dictated 12/9/85 LS 12p-303-73

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b7C

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☒ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 12/19/85

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)
 FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (RUC)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
 NARCOTICS MATTER

OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Louisville teletype to Charlotte, 10/25/85.

Enclosed for Louisville are the following items:

1. Original and two copies of FD-302 interview of [redacted] Security Supervisor, CAROLINA TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY, Fayetteville, N. C., along with Agent's notes of interview.
2. Original and two copies of FD-302 interview of SA [redacted] North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation, regarding background information on [redacted].
3. FD-617, Administrative Subpena for toll records.
4. Toll records obtained from [redacted].

As no further investigation remains in Charlotte, this matter is being placed in an RUC status.

(2) - Louisville (Encs. 4) P.C.
 1 - Charlotte
 MAP:lbi
 (3)

12-303-74

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 23 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

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b7Cb6
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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per _____
 (Number) (Time)

X AIRTEL

12/17/85

TO: SAC, CINCINNATI
FROM: SAC, ATLANTA
SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS (D)
OO: LOUISVILLE
AT File Number: 12D-738 (P)

UNSUB (S);
DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
TAIL NUMBER N551CC;
DAMV;
OO: ATLANTA
AT File Number: 149A-703 (P)

Enclosed for the Cincinnati and Louisville Division are copies of letters mailed to the FBI, Atlanta, from [redacted] OHIO STATE PRISON, P.O. Box 209, Orient, Ohio. Atlanta has made no attempt to contact this individual, and nothing is known regarding the accuracy of the information provided in these letters.

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LEADS:

CINCINNATI DIVISION

AT ORIENT, OHIO

Interview Inmate [redacted] OHIO STATE PRISON, Orient, Ohio, regarding the narcotics trafficking organization of ANDREW CARTER THORNTON and/or any knowledge he may have regarding the crash of DAVID WILLIAMS' Cessna 208 in Butts County, Georgia, in which 17 parachutists were killed.

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b7C

2 - Cincinnati (Enc. 2)
2 - Louisville (Enc. 2) *pc*
4 - Atlanta
(2 - 12D-738)
(2 - 149A-703)
CJJ:myb
(8)

ADMINISTRATIVE: Lengthy period between dictation date and date of communication due to stenographic delinquency.

126-303-75

SEARCHED	PC
SERIALIZED	Ken
DEC 27 1985	

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OCTOBER 8-1985

OHIO STATE PRISON
P.O. BOX 209
ORIENT, OHIO, 43146

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FEDERAL BUREAU INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATE POST OFFICE
ATLANTA, GEORGIA,
DEAR SIR

I, [REDACTED] NOW SERVING TIME IN THE OHIO STATE PRISON AND HAVE SOME AT THE , ATLANTA, NARCOTIC AGENTS, AN F.B.I, NEED TO KNOW ON WHAT THEY ARE LOOKING FOR, AN WHOM. ON MR ANDREW CARTER THORNTON AND HIS DEALING ON COCAINE, AND WHOM IS INVOLVED IN IT WITH HIM.

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JUST AFTER H E WAS KILL, THE LEXINGTON, KY POLICE DEPARTMENT AN FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS UP HERE TO QUESTION, ME ABOUT MR THORTON AN HIS DEALING WITH PEOPLE AT LIVE AT [REDACTED]

MR ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, WAS DEALING WITH , A [REDACTED] [REDACTED] IN WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN LIVEING TO GATHER AS MAN AN WIFE, COMMON, LAW FOR THE PASS (10 YEARS, FINELY GOT MARRIED [REDACTED] AT [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] HAD [REDACTED] IN [REDACTED] ENLEGAL, NAME IT [REDACTED] BY HER MAIDEN NAME. [REDACTED] IS [REDACTED] AGE [REDACTED] YEARS OLD, NATIONAL ALLITY [REDACTED] AGE [REDACTED] BORN AT [REDACTED] PAST HISTORY,

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IN 1978 KIDNAPPED A SMALL GIRL IN MIAMI BEACH FLORIDA BRUNG HER TO CINCINNATI, OHIO, AND HAD [REDACTED] TO COVER UP FOR, IN WHICH [REDACTED] DID NOT KNOW THE CHILE WAS KIDNAPPED, THEN SOLD IT IN CINCINNATI, OHIO.

JANUARY 1979. SHE AN HUSBOND WENT TO MANHATTAN, NEW YOUK AN KIDNAPPED, [REDACTED] SON 6 WHILE ON THE WAY TO SCHOOL, AND BRUNG HIM TO COVINGTON, KENTUCKY, WHERE THEY COULD DRAW WELFARE ON IT.

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THE CHILE FATHER LIVES AT [REDACTED] This pass spring they kidnapped a [REDACTED] YEARS OLD GIRL AT [REDACTED] BY THE NAME OF ([REDACTED] AND THE LAST TRACT I CPULD FIND OUT FROM PRISON, THE KANTUCKY JUDGE GIVE HER COUSTODY OF IT,

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I HAVE BEEN PRISON FOR 5 YEARS, AN WENT TO PAROLE BOARD 3 TIME AND MAKE IT, WHEN. I GET READY TO GO HOME. [REDACTED] PLACE A DETAINER AGAINST ME. TO KEEP ME FROM GETTING OUT, CAUSE THEY KNOW AT I CAN SEND BOTH OF THEM TO THE FLORIDA ELECTRIC CHAIR, FOR KIDNAPPING. I WAS SUPPOSE TO GET OUT OCTOBER 28-1985, THEY SENT ANOTHER DETAINER DOWN ON ME. NOW I AM WILL TO TALK TO THE ATLANTA NARICOTIC AGENTS, AN F.B.I, WHEN THEY ARRIVED HERE, AND TESTIFIED AGAINST THEM.

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OVER

LIST OF SOME OF THEIR PARDONS IN COCAINE AN MARIJUANA, DEALERS.
MR LEWIS PINTO. AGE 51 SERVED TIME FOR MONEY LAUNDRYING. KILL AT RED
WOOD, MOTEL, TAMPA, FLORIDA, AFTER TESTIFIED AS A FEDERAL WITNESS,
SERVED 23 MONTHS AT MARION, ILL. FEDERAL PRISON.

[REDACTED] OF [REDACTED] AT OWEN
THE LOUNGE. AN STAKE HOUSES, HAVE A FEDERAL SENTENCE (10 YEARS OUT ON
COURT BOND.

[REDACTED] AT WAS COUGHT FLYING IN ALAMBA, AT CITY
AIR PORT, WITH 18 BAGS. MARIJUANA, LOW ON GASS,

[REDACTED] HAD A SISTER AT LIVE AT [REDACTED]
FOR THE PERIOD (20 YEARS AT WAS TIDE UP WITH A GROUP AT HAD A SHRIMP
BOAT AT WENT TO THE BAHANNA, ONCE A WEEK TO BRING THE COCAINE BACK.

IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR [REDACTED] AN [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BURNED DOWN A RACE HORSE BARN DOWN AT THE MILES TRACT ON SOUTH
BROADWAY, LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY. OVER COCAINE AT THE TROOTERS WOULD NOT
PAY OFF,

IN 1980 THEY BURN DOWN A RACE HORSE BARN ON THE PARIS PIKE JUST OUT
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, KILLING A LARGE SUM OF RACE HORSES, THE FARM NAME
WAS THE CASTEL FARM. OVER COCAINE AN MARIJUANA.

DECEMBER 1979 THEY BURN DOWN THE ROSE BROTHER LUMBER COMPANY AT 17th,
AND MADISON, COVINGTON, KENTUCKY. OVER A BILL THEY OWED, AND COCAINE WAS
DUE IN WHEN THE LUMBER CAME IN FROM THE SOUTH,

I RECEIVED AN LETTER JUST BEFORE THE LEXINGTON, KY POLICE CAME HERE
AT ON OCTOBER 28-1985, THERE IS AN LOAD OF COCAINE COMMING IN TO THE
KEENLING RACE TRACK, ON VERSALLES ROAD, JUST OUT OF LEXINGTON, KY, AT THE
BLUE GRASS AIR PORT,

200 KILIGO, AND [REDACTED] AN WIFE, AN SON TO PICK IT UP.
TO BE STORAGE AT THE KEENLING RACE TRACK.

THIS [REDACTED] AN WIFE HAVE BEEN MARIJUANA AN COCAINE DEAING 1976
PLUS KIDNAPPING SMALL CHILDREN, AND SELLING THEM. ONCE HAD AN UNMARRIED
MOTHERS CLUB, WHERE THEY PAY THE MATHERS DOCTORS BILL FOR THE BABY.

THIS FAMELY HAVE (TWO ADDRESS) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAVE (5 CHILDREN, UNDER FONEYS BIRTH RECORDS, SHE TELL
EVERY ONE AT THEY ARE MINE, SENCE I BEEN LOCK UP. BUT ALL MY CHILDREN IN
MARRIED OFF AN GONE, MY BABY CHILE IS 31 YEARS OLD AN IN SERVICES,

. I MY SELF, I AM [REDACTED] YEARS OLD, AN WIFE [REDACTED] MARRIED [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ANY STILL IS, BOTH STILL LIVING, AN TOGATHER, 43 YEARS. HAVE A COPY
OF MY LICENS HERE IN PRISON, WITH ME NOW. SP YBUALL COME UP HERE AND I
CAN FILL YOU IN ON SOME CLUES AT YOU ARE LOOKING FOR. AT NEVERY WILL BE
UNCOVER WITH OUT ME, WILL CLOSE. COME ON SOON,

YOURS TRULY [REDACTED]

October 11-1985

Ohio State Prison
P.O. Box 209
Orient, Ohio, 43146

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b7C

To:
Federal Bureau Investigation
U.S. POST office BUILDING
ATLANTA, GA, 30301

Dear Sir

I just received an letter from some of Mr Willians, An Andrew Thornton Friends, to day, they are still going to bring, in the load of CoCAINE to the Keenland race track on October 28-1985. Around (TWO HUNDERS KIEGLO. And is Unloading 200 pounds at the club, on RICHMOND Road, and still keep the COCAINE BUISNESS OPEN, NO REASON WHY, CLOSE BEEN ANDREW THORNTON, IS DEAD,

THIS IS STILL TIED UP WITH THE SOUTH BROADWAY FIRE AT THE MILES TRACK, OF TROTTER HORSES,

THE GROUP WILL BE STAYING AT THE AIR PORT, MOTEL* DOWNTOWNER ON EAST MAIN STREET, NOW THE U,C, MOTEL.

ALL OF THEM WILL BE WEARING THE, 101 AIRBORN, MARKING TO WHERE EACH ONE CAN BE RECNIZED BY THE OTHERS ONES,

THERE WILL BE QUIET A FEWS OF SKYDIVERS THERE, ONE FROM THE CORBIN, KENTUCKY CITY POLICE FORCE, AT SET UP THE DEALING IN, BAHANNA WILL BE THERE, AND HIS MOTHER, AT BEEN IN THE RACKET FOR OVER 20 YEARS,

THEY WILL BE EATING AT THE ROGERS RESTURENCE, NEAR THE THE MILES TRACT, AT, [REDACTED]

AT [REDACTED] IS ONE PART OF THEM. WORK

WHITE, PAYOFF MAN, FOR THE GANG, [REDACTED] AGE IN 50ths,

SOME ANE COME ON UP, BEFORE IT TO LATE, CAN GIVE FULL INFORMATION ON THE FULL GANG.

WILL GIVE YOU SOME INFORMATION AT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT [REDACTED] YEARS AGO, WHILE ON THE CHICKEN FARM, AT [REDACTED] HE USED TO RASE (HIMP NONE AS MARIJUANA, IN THE FENCE ROADS , AND DRY IT OUT, AN TAKE IT TO COVINGTON, AN SELL IT ON SATURDAY, AS A SCHOOL KID, PEDDLE BARBATUL ON THE STREETS, AND MORFEEN, AT BUY FROM DEALERS. SOME TIMES HUNG AROUND THE LOCKING AIR PORT, AT CINCINNATI, OHIO WEAGHT FOR STUFF TO COME IN ON THE PLANE, AT HE COULD SELL.

WILL CLOSE, ANSWER SOON,

YOURS TRULY
[REDACTED]

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Memorandum



To : SAC. LOUISVILLE (12G-303)

Date 1/2/86

From : SA

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b7C

Subject : UNSUB(S);
DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
TAIL #N551CC;
DAMV; NARCOTICS;
OO: ATLANTA

In light of writer's official transfer to New York City, it is requested this case be reassigned.

② - LS (12G-303)
LAB/rc
(2)


*Reassign
lead to*



12G-303-76

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>ca</i>	FILED <i>ca</i>

[Signature]



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More cocaine is found in north Georgia

Associated Press

SUCHES, Ga. — Three more duffel bags filled with cocaine, believed to have been dropped by a Kentucky drug smuggler who fell to his death parachuting from a plane, have been found hanging in a tree near Suches in northwest Georgia.

The find Saturday in the Chattahoochee National Forest brought to eight the number of duffel bags — containing about 520 pounds of cocaine — found in the north Georgia mountains since the Sept. 11 accident in Knoxville, Tenn., authorities said.

Andrew Carter Thornton II, 40, described as a former Lexington, Ky., narcotics agent turned drug smuggler, died as he was parachuting into Knoxville after a flight from

Colombia. Authorities found 77 pounds of cocaine strapped to his body and discovered in his clothing the key to a plane that crashed into a mountain in North Carolina after being set on automatic pilot.

A hunter spotted the three duffel bags in a tree in the same area where the other bags were found, about 10 miles north of Suches. The hunter contacted the Fannin County sheriff's department.

The high-grade cocaine was sent to the state crime lab in Atlanta for confirmation, but there was no doubt the cocaine was part of the Thornton smuggling case, said Fran Wiley of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's regional drug smuggling unit in Gainesville.

Wiley said the nylon zip bags, the markings and the locks on the duffel bags were the same as those found earlier and linked to Thornton.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY, PAGE B-6

Date: 12/30/85
Edition: MORNING

Title: MORE COCAINE IS FOUND
IN NORTH GEORGIA

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

Andrew C. Thornton

183B-370

190-100-57

100-0-8145 p 2

9-0-565

190-294

126-303

92-1187-117

44-1800

12M-303-77

SEARCHED <i>mm</i>	INDEXED <i>mm</i>
SERIALIZED <i>mm</i>	FILED <i>mm</i>
4 JAN 9 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	
<i>#3</i> <i>12M</i>	

COPY SENT BUREAU *1-9-86*

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 1/10/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738) (P) (SQUAD 6)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; 126-303
 NARCOTICS - ITG 190-299
 OO: LOUISVILLE

Reference telephone call between SA [redacted]
 Atlanta Division and SA [redacted] Lexington RA, on 12/30/85.

Enclosed for Louisville Division is one copy
 of property receipt from the estate of DAVID WILLIAMS
 that was turned over to [redacted] on 1/7/86. [redacted]
 is a [redacted] for MOFFETT AND HENDERSON, an Atlanta law
 firm whose senior partner, JOHN HENDERSON, was appointed
 by Fulton County Probate Court to administrate the estate
 of WILLIAMS.

As discussed in referenced telephone call, the
 items returned are no longer needed as evidence in this
 investigation.

② - Louisville (Enc. 1)
 2 - Atlanta
 CJJ:lm
 (4)

12D-303-78

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED[redacted]
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/18/85

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[redacted] telephone number [redacted] was interviewed at her residence. Also present were [redacted] telephone number [redacted] telephone number [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] related that DAVID WILLIAMS' Caravan experienced some difficulties while in Freeport, Illinois, at the Freak Brothers Boogie. This is a meeting of skydivers from all over the country and lasts for approximately two weeks. On August 10, 1985, [redacted] flew the Caravan without replacing the oil dipstick into the engine. A fire broke out in the engine and had to be extinguished. DAVID WILLIAMS blamed [redacted] for the incident. [redacted] claimed that WILLIAMS rushed him; telling him to get the airplane in the air before [redacted] had a chance to check it properly. On August 11, 1985, two women were killed in skydiving incidents at the site. One of these women died while jumping from the Caravan. [redacted] stated that this woman died due to her own negligence and not because of any actions by the crew or deficiencies in the airplane. Later that day, the oil dipstick was again left out of the airplane before takeoff. Another fire developed in the engine. At this time, WILLIAMS [redacted] advised that on this occasion, the fault clearly lied with [redacted].

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[redacted] related that [redacted] formerly worked for WILLIAMS. [redacted] was a [redacted] and worked on WILLIAMS' real estate holdings. During the spring of 1985, [redacted] and WILLIAMS had a falling out. WILLIAMS fired [redacted] because [redacted] did not work hard enough. Although there were some hard feelings, [redacted] continued to jump with WILLIAMS, although not from the Caravan.

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[redacted] related that she attended the Green Reunion at Bardstown, Kentucky [redacted] on August 24 and August 25, 1985. DREW THORNTON and [redacted] were also there. [redacted] and [redacted] were also there. [redacted] used to work as a [redacted] at the [redacted] drop zone.

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b7CInvestigation on 10/05/85 at Marietta, GeorgiaBy SA [redacted] rksSEARCHED
SERIALIZED612-303-79
ATC 149A-703INDEXED
AT 12D-738Date dictated 10/08/85

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency [redacted]

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AT 149A-703

AT 12D-738

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED] on 10/05/85, Page 2

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[REDACTED] is a highly experienced skydiver. [REDACTED] quit his job at [REDACTED] approximately six months ago. He currently skydives at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] might have sold parachuting equipment to THORNTON. [REDACTED] was very close friends with [REDACTED] and attended both THORNTON's and WILLIAMS' funeral.

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[REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] was a close associate of WILLIAMS and THORNTON. [REDACTED] is a [REDACTED] DOUG HOLMES, who died in the Caravan crash, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] related that she remembers that [REDACTED] told her that on the weekend of September 20, 1985, while the Caravan was at Sparta, Illinois, WILLIAMS and [REDACTED] were angry at [REDACTED] because he was lackadaisical in his approach. For example, [REDACTED] did not keep up with his share of the workload, and did not participate in fuel pumping. [REDACTED] who was not feeling well that weekend due to a suspected pregnancy, had to pump the fuel herself.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/21/85

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[redacted]
[redacted] was contacted
at [redacted]

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[redacted] advised that the interview concerned his knowledge of DAVID L. WILLIAMS, who was killed in the crash of WILLIAMS' Cessna Caravan airplane in Jenkinsburg, Georgia on September 29, 1985.

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[redacted] expressed his full cooperation concerning this matter and thereafter furnished the following information:

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[redacted] first met DAVID WILLIAMS approximately three years ago when WILLIAMS was an engineer with the KROGER GROCERY STORE chain. At that time, [redacted] company had been involved in the [redacted]. WILLIAMS left the employment of KROGER and started some land developing on his own and for others in the Atlanta area.

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WILLIAMS approached [redacted]. [redacted] would be able to obtain necessary financing. WILLIAMS already had an option on the land where MONTIETH COMMONS is now located on Piedmont Road. [redacted] WILLIAMS also was in the process of building a KROGER store on Ponce de Leon in Atlanta with other partners.

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[redacted] WILLIAMS agreed to form the MIDSTATES GROUP, INC. to pursue the construction of MONTIETH COMMONS, which is the office condominium complex where MIDSTATES' offices are located. [redacted]

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[redacted]. WILLIAMS would run MIDSTATES and would receive two-thirds of the profits, [redacted].

Although [redacted] was a [redacted] he did not want the [redacted]

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[redacted]
knew he was [redacted].

Investigation on 10/4/85 at Atlanta, GeorgiaFile # AT 149A-703By SA [redacted] glwDate dictated 10/4/85b6
b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency [redacted]

AT 149A-703

Continuation of FD-302 of [redacted] on 10/4/85, Page 2

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WILLIAMS told [redacted] that his partners in the above mentioned KROGER deal wanted to buy WILLIAMS' interest in that project for \$100,000.00. This was agreeable to [redacted] allowed WILLIAMS to use [redacted] portion of the buyout for WILLIAMS to purchase his house. The books of MIDSTATES would reflect that MIDSTATES owed [redacted] the amount which WILLIAMS put on his house.

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[redacted] was pleased with the MONTIETH COMMONS project and felt a great deal of money could be made by MIDSTATES from that project.

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MIDSTATES also became involved in student housing condominium projects near Auburn University in Alabama and near the University of North Carolina in Carrboro, North Carolina. Each of these projects was known as SCARBOROUGH SQUARE.

The project in North Carolina did not go well and was discontinued. The land in that project is being sold.

The SCARBOROUGH SQUARE in Auburn consisted of 96 condominium units which would hopefully be sold to students or other investors. In order to obtain financing for the project, FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL in Mobile, Alabama, required that at least eight units be presold. [redacted] agreed to [redacted] and at least six others were sold to investors, some of whom were handled by [redacted] a [redacted] as well as MIDSTATES'. The ten percent down payments on the units presold required by FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL totalled \$250,000.00 and was obtained from investors and placed in the financial institution. This was the requirement of the bank to finance the project.

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[redacted] recalls that in late 1984, WILLIAMS came to him and told [redacted] that he had placed an order with CESSNA for a Caravan airplane which was a new and advanced airplane with which [redacted] was not familiar. WILLIAMS had already made a \$10,000.00 payment from MIDSTATES to CESSNA to ensure his order for the airplane. At that time, [redacted] told WILLIAMS that MIDSTATES was not in the airplane business and the airplane was not to be bought by MIDSTATES. [redacted] told WILLIAMS the \$10,000.00 was to be repaid to MIDSTATES by WILLIAMS. This probably was never done. At that time, [redacted] thought that was the end of the matter.

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AT 149A-703

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED] on 10/4/85, Page 3

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About May or June, 1985, WILLIAMS called [REDACTED] and wanted to talk to him. WILLIAMS told [REDACTED] that his airplane was ready for delivery, but WILLIAMS was unable to get a loan for the \$650,000.00 purchase price. WILLIAMS wanted [REDACTED] to help him obtain financing [REDACTED] to buy the airplane. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]. If WILLIAMS were to buy the plane, he would have to obtain his own financing.

During this time, the Auburn project was not going very well, in that the units were not selling. It was decided that MIDSTATES would not attempt to sell any more units and would keep the entire project and rent the condominiums. This was agreeable to the bank, as the units could be rented easily. This would also free up the deposits made by investors who had committed to buying the condominiums.

About two weeks prior to this interview, [REDACTED] was contacted by [REDACTED] who needed to talk to him. [REDACTED] met [REDACTED] away from the MIDSTATES office at which time she told [REDACTED] that WILLIAMS was making fund transfers which concerned [REDACTED]. It was through these contacts that [REDACTED] discovered what WILLIAMS had done.

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WILLIAMS, [REDACTED] devised a method to obtain financing to buy the Cessna Caravan. WILLIAMS had contacted the LONG ALDRICH Law Firm and caused a Consent of Directors to be drawn up to obtain \$200,000.00 from the investors' money in the Auburn project from the bank in Mobile, Alabama. WILLIAMS apparently had the Consent delivered to him after it was prepared. Either WILLIAMS or someone at his direction forged [REDACTED] signature on the Consent form. With the use of the Consent, WILLIAMS somehow managed to persuade the bank in Mobile to furnish the \$200,000.00 to him. [REDACTED] is unsure at this point whether WILLIAMS had the money transferred to BANK SOUTH or to MIDSTATES or to ACES, which was a company set up totally by WILLIAMS, apparently to control the airplane.

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[REDACTED] advised that a person from his company, who had been checking the MIDSTATES' books, left his company and the MIDSTATES records had not been checked for six to eight months. [REDACTED] advised that his accounting firm would be conducting a complete audit of MIDSTATES beginning on October 7, 1985.

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AT 149A-703

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED] on 10/4/85, Page 4

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[REDACTED] advised that he did not know ANDREW THORNTON but [REDACTED] had told him when THORNTON died that he was a good friend of WILLIAMS.

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[REDACTED] advised that he has no knowledge whatsoever that DAVID WILLIAMS was involved in illegal drugs. He advised, however, that a financial situation like the one in which WILLIAMS had become involved might have caused WILLIAMS to do something he might not otherwise have considered.

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[REDACTED] stated that he should have more closely monitored the MIDSTATES situation rather than allowing WILLIAMS to have a free hand.

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[REDACTED] advised that at the outset of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] was not involved in skydiving and was not aware of WILLIAM's activities outside of the business.

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[REDACTED] advised that he has no idea who would want to sabotage WILLIAMS' airplane and knows of no enemies of WILLIAMS whom he would suspect of trying to kill WILLIAMS.

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[REDACTED] signed a consent to search form regarding the MIDSTATES GROUP Offices. He expressed his cooperation with regard to this matter.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 10/11/85

On October 3, 1985, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was interviewed at her home by Special Agents (SAs) [REDACTED] and GLENN V. OLDHAM. After being apprised of the nature of the interview and the identities of the Agents, [REDACTED] made the following statement.

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[REDACTED] but she did talk to him a few times over the telephone.

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[REDACTED] except when he was working. WILLIAMS was very secretive about his work and rarely let [REDACTED] know what he was doing or who his associates were. Likewise, he did not let [REDACTED] know the status of their money affairs; and he maintained all checking and saving's accounts himself. [REDACTED] stated that because she and WILLIAMS were [REDACTED] she is positive that he never used, sold, or transported drugs the entire time [REDACTED]. On one occasion he told her that he would never get

Investigation on 10/3/85 at Roswell, Georgia

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FILED
Atlanta (AT) 149A-703
SF2-69

by SA GLENN V. OLDHAM *Go*
SA [REDACTED] CJJ:ekm Date dictated 10/4/85

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involved with drugs because it was "too easy to do; once you started you'd keep doing it and eventually get caught." [REDACTED] stated that she is very definitely against drugs and presumed that WILLIAMS would be also. However, when asked if WILLIAMS would attempt to make a drug deal if he found himself in a financial crisis, [REDACTED] stated that he would. He had once told her that he had "lost everything" in 1977 and would never be poor again.

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[REDACTED] WILLIAMS parachuted every weekend. [REDACTED] accompanied him on every one of these jumps. In 1983, WILLIAMS purchased a small Cessna airplane for \$10,000 and used it to fly around the country. [REDACTED] accompanied him on these trips.

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[REDACTED] stated that she did not know anyone who wished to hurt or kill WILLIAMS. She explained that the pilots who hire themselves out to parachute clubs are often very competitive and perhaps someone who was jealous of WILLIAMS' high performance Cessna Caravan airplane had wished to destroy the plane by contaminating the fuel supply. One of WILLIAMS' major competitors flew a DC-3 named the Sugar Alpha from the LaGrange Airport. Once the owner of the Sugar Alpha had gotten into a fight with another airplane owner in Kentucky concerning who had the better plane. The fight ended when both pilots drove their airplanes into each other on the ground. [REDACTED] could not recall the name of either pilot.

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Additionally, [REDACTED] described WILLIAMS as a bitter, angry, possessive individual who was very prone to violence. She stated that it was quite possible that he had angered an associate and that individual attempted to retaliate against WILLIAMS by placing sugar in his airplane's fuel tank. She stated that WILLIAMS was very meticulous about the way he maintained his possessions and would have taken great care in insuring that proper maintenance was conducted on his airplane.

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WILLIAMS had no close friends because of his anti-social personality. He was close to a pilot named [REDACTED] (last name unknown).

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[REDACTED] stated that she never met ANDREW THORNTON but she recalled that WILLIAMS called him once. On time WILLIAMS insinuated to her that THORNTON was involved with drugs. She thought that WILLIAMS and THORNTON had grown up and attended college together.

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WILLIAMS carried at least one gun with him at all times. He told [REDACTED] that, because his business often required him to be around sums of large cash, he needed it for self-protection. Once after they had gone to a party, WILLIAMS pointed his gun at [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] stated that she had once been to the cabin that WILLIAMS rented in Blue Ridge, Georgia, but could not recall its location nor the name of the owner. She stated that [REDACTED] who worked as an [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] could provide that information. [REDACTED] and her husband used to belong to a dance team at WRANGLER'S with WILLIAMS and they often went with him to the cabin. WILLIAMS used to rent this cabin to entertain friends and [REDACTED] doubted that he would have used it for narcotics dealings.

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WILLIAMS once had a property management business with [REDACTED] (phonetic).

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[REDACTED] believes that WILLIAMS had a will but, because of the bad feelings that developed [REDACTED] she was sure that WILLIAMS had left nothing to her. Additionally, she seriously doubted that she was the beneficiary of any insurance policy. WILLIAMS had informed her that he was insured for a substantial amount. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was surprised that WILLIAMS owned a 4-wheel drive truck. She stated that this was not WILLIAMS' style and he perhaps had bought the truck for some type of rural traveling.

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[REDACTED] knew [REDACTED] only briefly. At first he was nice but soon began to take on [REDACTED] characteristics and began to grow nasty and egotistical. She doubted that he was involved with drugs.

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WILLIAMS attorney [REDACTED] was Atlanta attorney [REDACTED]

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Another friend of both WILLIAMS' and [REDACTED] was [REDACTED] who was an [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] concluded the interview by stating that she had no idea who might have placed sugar in WILLIAMS' fuel tank. She doubted that it had anything to do with drugs but was more likely the result of someone who was angry with WILLIAMS, such as a business competitor or acquaintance who wanted to exact revenge on WILLIAMS by fueling his airplane engine with sugar.

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She stated that on Saturday, September 28, 1985, she had spent that entire day with [REDACTED] telephone [REDACTED]. She had spent Sunday, September 29, 1985, with [REDACTED] and with her roommate.

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[REDACTED] provided the following information about herself:

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Name:
Date of Birth:
Place of Birth:
Address:

Employer:

Telephone:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription
10/24/85

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[redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed at his office and provided the following information:

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[redacted] advised that he is a [redacted]

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[redacted] ever since it was first established. [redacted] advised that he had known DAVID WILLIAMS for approximately one and one half years on a strictly business basis. He said he has seen or met with WILLIAMS about six times during that period of time, but had spoken to him on the telephone many, many times. [redacted] advised the last time he saw WILLIAMS was on

[redacted] when the two went on a business trip to [redacted]. Recalling the events that day, [redacted] advised that he met WILLIAMS at the PEACHTREE DEKALB AIRPORT, at approximately 8:45 A.M. He said he arrived in his own car, and went directly to the aircraft, WILLIAMS arriving shortly thereafter. [redacted] stated he did not know how WILLIAMS arrived at the airport. On the day of this trip, WILLIAMS was dressed in a gray business suit. [redacted] noted at that time WILLIAMS appeared a little bit tired, and WILLIAMS advised him that he had "a late night with his girl friend." [redacted] stated that the two flew to

[redacted] in WILLIAMS' Cessna Caravan Aircraft. Initially, WILLIAMS had trouble entering the aircraft since he had forgotten the key for the aircraft entrance door. It was therefore necessary for [redacted] and WILLIAMS to enter the aircraft through the cargo compartment. After starting the engine, WILLIAMS also had forgotten to release the rear tie down on the craft. A mechanic on the ground noticed this and released the tie down for WILLIAMS. [redacted] advised that nothing out of the ordinary occurred on the flight to [redacted]. He was impressed with WILLIAMS' professionalism and the manner in which he controlled and flew the aircraft. They experienced no problems with the aircraft on the flight up there.

[redacted] around 10:30 A.M., where they rented a car at the airport and went directly to their meeting at the offices of the [redacted]

Interviewed on 10/9/85 at Atlanta, Georgia

File # Atlanta 149A-7035F2-88

By SA [redacted] mls

Date Dictated 10/14/85

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] advised that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Present at the meeting were [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The meeting commenced at approximately 11:00, and after a lunch break, ended at approximately 2:30 P.M. After the meeting, [REDACTED] and WILLIAMS drove back to the [REDACTED] in the rent-a-car, and boarded the Caravan for the flight back to Atlanta. The flight back to Atlanta was uneventful as far as [REDACTED] recalled. He stated the conversation between he and WILLIAMS both going up and coming back centered completely on the business dealings with [REDACTED] said he briefed WILLIAMS on the way up as to their particular options [REDACTED] and on the way back, the two discussed the meeting with the [REDACTED] stated that the two arrived at PEACHTREE DEKALB AIRPORT around 4:45 P.M. [REDACTED] said that he split up with WILLIAMS at this time in the terminal. WILLIAMS told him that he was going back to his own office for a meeting. [REDACTED] said he proceeded directly to his house. He noted that the aircraft was tied up at this time at the edge of the hanger. He did not know how WILLIAMS left the area. [REDACTED] could recall nothing particular or out of the ordinary on this day. He said the only thing was that WILLIAMS did appear a little bit tired to him, and in fact did remark to him he was a little bit tired because he had a late evening with his girl.

Concerning the [REDACTED] said the purpose of the trip was to clarify the [REDACTED]

Originally, [REDACTED]

However, [REDACTED]

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advised he could recall ~~nothing else~~ concerning his trip with WILLIAMS to . He said WILLIAMS never mentioned any of his friends or other business dealings to him. He stated he never met with WILLIAMS on a social basis and did not know who his friends were.

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[redacted] with FAUCETT, TAYLOR AND ASSOCIATES, Professional Corporation (P.C.), 2550 Heritage Court, N.W., Suite 206, Atlanta, Georgia, was contacted at that location. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the nature of the interview, [redacted] furnished the following information:

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FAUCETT, TAYLOR AND ASSOCIATES was the public accounting firm employed by THE MIDSTATES GROUP (MIDSTATES). [redacted] was [redacted] of FAUCETT, TAYLOR assigned to the MIDSTATES books. [redacted] is presently on maternity leave and will probably be away from her job for at least six weeks.

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[redacted] knew DAVID L. WILLIAMS, President of THE MIDSTATES GROUP, whose offices were located at Monticeth Commons, 2901 Piedmont Road, Atlanta. She met WILLIAMS through their firm's dealings with MIDSTATES and only knew WILLIAMS on a professional basis.

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[redacted] is familiar with a project of MIDSTATES at Auburn, Alabama, which is known as Scarborough Square. This project was initially planned by MIDSTATES as a condominium project for student housing at AUBURN UNIVERSITY. MIDSTATES intended that the condominiums would be sold to individual investors but apparently later decided that in view of the real estate market situation, it would be better to rent the development as apartments.

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Scarborough Square was begun in early 1985. The financing for the project was handled by FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL BANK OF MOBILE, ALABAMA (FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL). NEIL FAUCETT AND ASSOCIATES agreed to purchase five of the buildings in the project. FAUCETT secured 12 investors in the purchase of the five buildings. A total of \$160,000.00 cash was paid to MIDSTATES by FAUCETT as a down payment on the buildings. Of this amount, approximately \$42,000.00 was put up by the 12 investors, none of whom knew DAVID WILLIAMS.

Interviewed on 10/17/85 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 149A-703

By SA [redacted] rmb Date Dictated 10/21/85

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A purchase contract for FAUCETT to buy the five buildings was signed in March, 1985. The purchase was contingent upon FAUCETT being able to obtain a 12 percent (12%) fixed rate loan on the buildings from FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL. The \$160,000.00 was part of a Certificate of Deposit (CD) MIDSTATES was required to purchase from FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL in order to obtain financing for the condominium project.

It was approximately three months later, in late June, 1985, that FAUCETT learned that they would be unable to obtain the financing from FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL at the previously specified terms of the loan to buy the five buildings at Scarborough Square. When this occurred, FAUCETT decided not to buy the buildings and wanted to drop the matter.

[REDACTED] contacted DAVID WILLIAMS and told him that the FAUCETT firm was not buying the buildings because they were unable to obtain the financing as specified in the purchase agreement. [REDACTED] told WILLIAMS that they (FAUCETT AND ASSOCIATES) wanted their \$160,000.00 returned. WILLIAMS' response at that time was that the money was in a CD at the bank and MIDSTATES would lose the financial backing of the bank if the money was withdrawn.

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[REDACTED] pursued the matter with WILLIAMS on a number of occasions with no success in getting the money back. At one point, [REDACTED] recalls WILLIAMS telling them that the CD was for six months and it would not be available until September. [REDACTED] responded that FAUCETT would accept any penalty imposed for early withdrawal of the money.

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[REDACTED] was unaware of what WILLIAMS had supposedly done with the money until after WILLIAMS' death. She last spoke with WILLIAMS approximately one week prior to his death in the crash of his airplane. At that time, WILLIAMS was still trying to avoid returning the \$160,000.00 to FAUCETT AND ASSOCIATES.

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[REDACTED] advised it is now her understanding that WILLIAMS had forged [REDACTED] signature to be able to get the money from FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL and that WILLIAMS used the money as collateral for his loan on the airplane which he bought.

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[REDACTED] is not certain how the matter was handled but she understands the loan was obtained by WILLIAMS from BANK SOUTH.

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An audit of the MIDSTATES financial records is currently being conducted by FAUCETT, TAYLOR AND ASSOCIATES. [REDACTED] determined that the audit should be completed by October 25, 1985.

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[REDACTED] advised that she had no knowledge whatsoever concerning WILLIAMS' possible involvement in illegal drugs. She was aware that WILLIAMS was an avid skydiver and that he had bought a new airplane. He talked about this on the occasions [REDACTED] spoke with him.

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[REDACTED] has no information concerning anyone who might have wanted to sabotage WILLIAMS' airplane or kill him.

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[REDACTED] was advised that if additional information was required concerning MIDSTATES following the completion of the audit, she would be recontacted concerning this matter.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/19/85

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[redacted] telephone number [redacted] was interviewed at the [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] advised he is employed as the [redacted] with the [redacted] telephone number [redacted] and has been so employed since March, 1985. Prior to this, [redacted] was employed as an [redacted] with the [redacted] in [redacted] as well as holding previous employments as an [redacted] with the [redacted] and a [redacted]

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[redacted] related that his first contact with DAVID WILLIAMS was in January, 1984, while employed with the [redacted] when he received a telephone call from [redacted] of the Brevard County Sheriff's Department, in Florida. [redacted] advised [redacted] that on or about January 1, 1984, a twin-engine aircraft had landed in Miami, Florida, with no flight or radio contact. This had aroused the suspicions of the flight air controller. The following day, when attempts were made by the two individuals to take off in the plane, even more suspicion was raised when the two individuals apparently damaged the plane on take-off, resulting in the plane having to be towed back to the airport.

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The two individuals, possibly identified as FNU [redacted] and [redacted] did not have enough cash to pay for the repairs. The repairman was advised to contact DAVID WILLIAMS, at a telephone number which [redacted] later determined was the pay telephone located at WESTWIND SPORT AND PARACHUTE CLUB. Through several telephone conversations between the repairman and WILLIAMS, WILLIAMS assured the repairman that money would be cabled down for the work completed. WILLIAMS further stated that the owner of the plane was [redacted] a [redacted]

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A check was made by the Brevard County Sheriff's Department as to the ownership of the plane. It was determined that the owner [redacted] was located in [redacted]. The plane had recently been purchased from a partnership consisting of [redacted] and another individual involved in the pulpwood business.

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b7CInvestigation on 10/04/85 at Norcross, GeorgiaFile # AT 149A-703By SA [redacted] /rhw[redacted] dated 10/04/85b6
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[REDACTED] had last seen the plane on December 31, 1983. When [REDACTED] was contacted by the Sheriff's Department, he related that on that date he had been contacted by an individual asking if [REDACTED] had possession of [REDACTED] plane, and was interested in taking a look at it. [REDACTED] waited around, however, no one came by.

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[REDACTED] related that after he was contacted by the Sheriff's Department in Brevard County, he went to WESTWIND SPORT AND PARACHUTE CLUB (WESTWIND) on several occasions, in an attempt to surveil WILLIAMS for any further information. On one occasion, [REDACTED] observed a Mercedes and a rust colored Dodge van parked near a fairly nice-looking twin-engine aircraft. Another twin-engine aircraft was in the area with its doors open, standing next to it were four males, one of which was Latin, and one of which was carrying a travel bag. A third plane was located in the area, and all individuals appeared to be observing the landing gear. After a period of time, [REDACTED] was observed leaving the area in a pick-up truck, of which the back contained a large box with several green, plastic bags.

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It was later determined that the third plane had been involved in smuggling in the Texas and Louisiana areas. Another vehicle, which had been located on the scene at the time, a station wagon, was registered to [REDACTED] a [REDACTED] as well as a [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. The Dodge van was noted as being registered to [REDACTED].

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Shortly after the above-described incident, [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] and asked if [REDACTED] knew any information concerning the stolen plane belonging to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] advised that the description of the individual known as [REDACTED] actually sounded like an individual known as [REDACTED] who resided in [REDACTED] however, [REDACTED] flies commercially on a South American route. A check of [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] resulted in the knowledge that [REDACTED] had made a few unauthorized trips to South America.

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[REDACTED] related that [REDACTED] had contacted him concerning [REDACTED] had originally rented [REDACTED]

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a house to [REDACTED]. After several months of renting, [REDACTED] went into the house, in order to repair some electrical problems. Upon opening a closet door, [REDACTED] observed a plastic bag, approximately three inches square, containing white powder. [REDACTED] further related that when [REDACTED] first [REDACTED] was very poor and even had difficulty making the payments. During the past two years, [REDACTED] has purchased several pieces of equipment, and has quickly moved upward.

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In approximately June, 1985, [REDACTED] noticed a sleek, white colored plane, with tail number N551CC, at WESTWIND, which appeared to be out of place. [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] of United States Customs with this information.

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[REDACTED] advised that various other information, he had obtained through investigations, may be of some importance. At one point, a brand new briefcase, containing two canvas bags filled with sand, was located in the middle of a backyard near WESTWIND. Although no specific connections can be made with DAVID WILLIAMS, numerous individuals were named by [REDACTED] possibly having narcotics connections. DREW THORNTON may have in some way been connected to a [REDACTED] who was able to purchase a large portion of land in [REDACTED], through payment of cash, owned a Ferrari, and had a 24-hour security guard, headed by a [REDACTED]. Both [REDACTED] were former [REDACTED] in [REDACTED]. A private investigator contacted [REDACTED] requesting information about [REDACTED], due to possible embezzlement. Another individual, [REDACTED] was involved in a car accident in August, 1984, along with [REDACTED] had [REDACTED] in which machine guns and drugs were transferred to another vehicle prior to the arrival of the police.

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[REDACTED] advised the above information came from memory; however, the information had been recorded during his employment with the [REDACTED] and that information had been turned over to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] upon [REDACTED]
leaving the Department. In the past week, [REDACTED] had
learned that this file was turned over to [REDACTED] DRUG
ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription 10/31/85

[redacted] was interviewed at the office of the United States Attorney, RICHARD RUSSELL FEDERAL BUILDING, Atlanta, Georgia. [redacted] voluntarily agreed to be interviewed. Present for the interview was Assistant United States Attorney, [redacted]. Assistant United States Attorney, [redacted]. Upon being advised of the nature of the interview, and the identity of those conducting the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] advised that he has been employed with the [redacted] for [redacted]. He was previously a [redacted] at [redacted] in [redacted]. He explained that [redacted] DAVID WILLIAMS, owned 49 percent of the MIDSTATES GROUP [redacted]. MIDSTATES had typical financial problems, due to expensive construction loans, but this condition was to be resolved by sales of certain building projects. A completion and sale of the building project on Piedmont Road was expected by the end of the year.

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DAVID WILLIAMS did not embezzle any money, but borrowed \$200,000 to put down on the purchase of the Cessna Caravan, a plane that DAVID WILLIAMS purchased last May. [redacted] may or may not have known about the loan. The \$200,000 was from an investor group, FAWCETT, TAYLOR, and ASSOCIATES, an Atlanta accounting firm, which had been in an account at FIRST SOUTHERN FEDERAL SAVINGS & LOAN in Mobile, Alabama. The investment was earnest money concerning a building in Alabama that was being refurbished, and the earnest money was required to get a construction loan for MIDSTATES. WILLIAMS did not put any money down on the purchase of the Cessna Caravan, but took a loan for the entire purchase amount, resulting in monthly payments of \$17,000. WILLIAMS intended to make the payments from profits of weekend skydiving.

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[redacted] claimed that he first met ANDREW THORNTON at Xenia, Ohio, in late July, 1985, at a skydiving event. He did not have any previous knowledge of him or knowledge of his involvement with drugs. He also first met an individual with the initials of [redacted] for the first time in July. [redacted] and DAVID WILLIAMS were considered to be two of the best jumpers. [redacted] had not seen [redacted] since July, except at his brother's funeral. [redacted] believed that [redacted] met THORNTON through skydiving approximately three years ago, and has seen several photographs of [redacted]

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Investigation on 10/8/85 at Atlanta, Georgia

SA [redacted]
by SA GLENN V. OLDHAM GVO:ekm

Date dictated

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SERIALIZED FILED
ATLANTA (AT) 149A-703

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[REDACTED] with THORNTON skydiving.

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Xenia, Ohio, is a one hour drive from [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] is not interested in skydiving and had jumped for the first time in July at Xenia. [REDACTED] was the plane manifestor and [REDACTED] was the loader of the Caravan on the weekend of the skydiving events.

WILLIAMS was arranging to lease the Caravan to MIDNIGHT EXPRESS, and was expecting to stop skydiving during the cold weather months. The plane would be used for cargo runs by MIDNIGHT EXPRESS, and the lease would pay for the plane.

[REDACTED] owned a 1983 Mercedes Benz and a 1985 Chevrolet Blazer. In addition, he owned a house on Ivy Road in Atlanta. The house was purchased for \$145,000 with a mortgage of \$50,000 requiring monthly payments of \$700. The house and Mercedes were bought on profits from the sale of a building project located on Ponce de Leon. The 1985 Blazer was financed through GENERAL MOTORS ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION (GMAC), and the monthly payments were \$300.

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Three or four years ago, DAVE WILLIAMS had rented a cabin in the vicinity of Blairsville, Georgia. The people who had accompanied WILLIAMS to this cabin on various occasions are individuals that he no longer associates with. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] was one of those individuals.

[REDACTED] had five marriages. [REDACTED] could not recall the name of his first wife, but is aware there is a child from this first marriage and that the mother and child live somewhere in [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] also allowed the wife to have the new husband adopt the child and WILLIAMS had not seen his child in several years. The second marriage was to a [REDACTED]

during approximately [REDACTED]. The next marriage was to [REDACTED] during [REDACTED]. The fourth marriage was to [REDACTED] from [REDACTED] during [REDACTED] was

his last wife to whom he was married during [REDACTED] [REDACTED] believed the reason for the short marriage was that WILLIAMS had wanted to settle down while [REDACTED] was not ready to do so. WILLIAMS had filed for the divorce and there has been an on-going property dispute. He has been represented by an attorney by the name of [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] WILLIAMS had bought her a Porsche. Upon filing for divorce, he took the Porsche back. She subsequently drove it away and he reported the car stolen, as well as the wedding ring that he had bought for her, to the ATLANTA POLICE DEPARTMENT, and had filed insurance claims.

The first time that [REDACTED] had heard of fuel contamination of the Cessna Caravan, which occurred at Xenia, Ohio, was from [REDACTED] had never mentioned this problem to him. [REDACTED] was [REDACTED].

WILLIAMS had originally intended to go to THORNTON'S funeral, and had [REDACTED] cancel an instrument school where WILLIAMS was scheduled to go in Florida.

With respect to [REDACTED] knowledge of [REDACTED] activities and whereabouts on the days of September 10th through the 12th, 1985, he provided the following information:

On September 10, 1985, DAVE WILLIAMS was in the office at MIDSTATES until 3:30 p.m., and may have said he was going to the airport, meaning PEACHTREE DEKALB AIRPORT. On the following day, WILLIAMS flew with an attorney to Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

[REDACTED] had tried to call [REDACTED] at the office at 6:30 p.m., on the 11th, however, the secretary said he had left the office. DAVE WILLIAM'S home telephone was busy. On September 12, WILLIAMS was in the office at 9:30 a.m., and remained all day. [REDACTED] was going out of town to [REDACTED] and had talked to DAVE WILLIAMS in the morning and the afternoon. [REDACTED] had asked to use the Blazer on Friday, and was told by WILLIAMS that it was unavailable. [REDACTED] was certain that on September 12, [REDACTED] was in the office throughout the day..

On September 16, [REDACTED] first talked to [REDACTED] about ANDREW THORNTON'S death, which WILLIAMS responded to by shrugging off any concern. WILLIAMS acknowledged to [REDACTED] that WILLIAMS was aware that THORNTON was somehow involved in drugs, but would not further elaborate.

In reference to DAVID WILLIAMS' oxblood briefcase, [REDACTED] indicated that the lock was set to open and that WILLIAMS would use it only when going out of town. [REDACTED] went through the briefcase after [REDACTED] death. The briefcase contained surveys, market strategies, flight plans and an appointment calendar. He had opened it subsequent to [REDACTED] death looking for a will and a life insurance policy. He did not remove anything from the briefcase.

AT 149A-703

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/8/85 , Page 4

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With respect to persons who have possibly threatened [REDACTED] [REDACTED] recalled that an individual with the last name of [REDACTED] the husband of [REDACTED] had once threatened to kill WILLIAMS in 1984. [REDACTED] had pulled up to WILLIAMS' driveway, and WILLIAMS and [REDACTED] had argued. On a previous occasion, the husband had learned that [REDACTED] had visited a motel room with WILLIAMS at a HOLIDAY INN in McDonough, Georgia, after a skydiving event. Apparently, the husband had gone to the motel room and observed his wife sitting on the bed while DAVID WILLIAMS was in the shower. [REDACTED] and DAVE WILLIAMS knew each other from a real estate deal with her and her parents. [REDACTED] was not able to explain why a [REDACTED] had been on [REDACTED] calendar for an appointment which was to have occurred after [REDACTED] death.

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[REDACTED] was not aware of any trips that [REDACTED] or THORNTON may have made to Colombia. He was not aware of any remarks made by [REDACTED] that he had suspected that the DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) was following his plane. He was not aware of any business relationship that [REDACTED] may have had with [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] explained that [REDACTED] a \$52,000 life insurance policy [REDACTED]. He was not aware of any wills or safe-deposit boxes in [REDACTED] name. [REDACTED] explained that [REDACTED] did own a Cessna 182, bought from a [REDACTED] an [REDACTED] for the amount of \$7,000 or \$8,000. [REDACTED] had sold his plane due to a divorce property settlement.

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DAVID WILLIAMS was never a student at the UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY. He had served in the UNITED STATES ARMY, but had never been a helicopter pilot.

[REDACTED] does not know of a RUBIN SOTO, nor is he aware of [REDACTED] purchasing a ticket on either September 11, 1985, or September 12, 1985, for RUBIN SOTO. [REDACTED] does not know of a [REDACTED].

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[REDACTED] had been a pilot for WILLIAMS, who had flown the Cessna Caravan. During the past Memorial Day weekend during an event in upstate New York, [REDACTED] had flown the Cessna Caravan in a manner that caused damage to the plane while in flight, and the plane had to be returned to Wichita, Kansas, to be repaired for

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AT 149A-703
Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 10/8/85 , Page 5

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the amount of \$9,000 - \$10,000. For insurance purposes, a claim was submitted which indicated that damage was due to the fact that the plane was being improperly tied down when secured on the ground as opposed to an in-flight incident. [REDACTED] explained that [REDACTED] had been [REDACTED] DAVID.

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As no further questions were asked of [REDACTED] the interview was terminated.

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When this FD-302 is included in a report, note under the Administrative Section that the lengthy period between the dictation date and date of FD-302 was due to the delinquency in the Atlanta steno pool.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/18/851

[redacted]
Delta Airlines, Inc., Hartsfield, Atlanta International Airport,
Atlanta, Georgia, was telephonically interviewed and provided the
following information:

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[redacted] related that Delta Airlines records reflect that a
ticket was purchased in the name of RUBIN SOTO for Flight 803, leaving
New York La Guardia Airport at 8:30 a.m. on September 10, 1985, and
scheduled to arrive at Atlanta Hartsfield Airport at 10:41 a.m. on
September 10, 1985. The ticket was paid for in cash and was stamped
at the boarding gate, indicating that the ticket was used.

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[redacted] advised that Delta Airlines records indicate that a
ticket was purchased by RUBIN SOTO on Flight 710 leaving Atlanta
Hartsfield Airport at 8:36 p.m. on September 11, 1985. This ticket
was paid for by an American Express credit card in the name of
DAVID WILLIAMS. The ticket was stamped at the boarding gate,
indicating that the ticket was used.

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b7DInvestigation on 10/07/85 at Atlanta, GeorgiaFile # AT 12D-738By SA [redacted] rksDate dictated 10/09/85b6
b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI.
It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its
contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/6/85

1

RUBEN SOTO, who resides at 134 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, was interviewed at his residence by Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]. Also present were SAs [REDACTED]. After being advised of the identities of the Agents and of the nature of the interview, SOTO provided the following information:

SOTO stated that he met DREW THORNTON, DAVID WILLIAMS and [REDACTED] while at a skydiving meet in DeLand, Florida, during the spring of 1982 or 1983. SOTO and THORNTON became friendly due to their similar military background. SOTO is airborne qualified and special forces qualified and has experience and expertise in night infiltration. THORNTON told SOTO that he wanted SOTO to work for him on some future narcotics smuggling operations.

On one occasion, THORNTON called SOTO and told him to fly to New Orleans to be part of a drop zone crew set up to receive a marijuana load dropped by THORNTON. This operation was called off; however, SOTO received five hundred dollars from THORNTON for being on retainer.

THORNTON kept in touch with SOTO intermittently through 1984 and 1985. THORNTON sent SOTO money on one occasion because SOTO was in a financial bind.

In August, 1985, THORNTON called SOTO and told him that he wanted SOTO to be part of a ground crew in a cocaine smuggling operation in Georgia later that month. SOTO said that he would do it. THORNTON told SOTO that he would pay SOTO ten thousand dollars for his participation in the operation.

The operation was supposed to take place on August 27, 1985. On this date, THORNTON called SOTO and told him that the operation was temporarily postponed and would occur later in the year.

612-303-87

Investigation on 10/11/85 at Brooklyn, New York File # AT12D-738
SA [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED]
 by SA [REDACTED] lwg Date dictated 10/15/85

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

2

On September 8, 1985, THORNTON called SOTO and told him to fly down to Atlanta and meet DAVID WILLIAMS to participate in the operation. On September 10, 1985, SOTO flew from New York-LaGuardia to Atlanta on DELTA AIRLINES. He arrived in Atlanta at around noon and was met at the airport by DAVID WILLIAMS.

WILLIAMS and SOTO drove in WILLIAMS' Mercedes Benz to a restaurant and had lunch. They then stopped at WILLIAMS' business office where WILLIAMS spent about five minutes while SOTO waited in the car. Next, they drove to WILLIAMS' Atlanta residence. SOTO related that the home was in a residential neighborhood. There were landscapers working on the property when they arrived. SOTO remembered there being a fireplace and a white rug on the living room floor.

WILLIAMS made some telephone calls from his residence; one being a call to his secretary to confirm a meeting that he had that afternoon. WILLIAMS told his secretary that his meeting needed to conclude by 4:00 p.m. that afternoon because he had plans after 4:00 p.m.

At approximately 2:00 p.m., WILLIAMS left his residence, wearing a business suit, to attend this meeting. SOTO remained in the residence. At approximately 4:30 p.m., WILLIAMS returned to his residence and changed into blue jeans and sneakers. WILLIAMS and SOTO drove WILLIAMS' Chevrolet Blazer to a small airport in the Atlanta area. WILLIAMS wanted to change locations of his two airplanes because he needed his Caravan to be available on the morning of September 11, 1985, for a business trip. WILLIAMS and SOTO parked the Blazer at this airport and flew WILLIAMS' small, two-passenger, single engine aircraft to a different airport. This flight took approximately sixty minutes. WILLIAMS parked his small plane and WILLIAMS and SOTO flew WILLIAMS' Caravan aircraft back to the first airport. This flight took approximately twenty minutes. WILLIAMS had two hundred gallons of fuel put into each tank of the Caravan.

After stopping for food, WILLIAMS and SOTO drove back to WILLIAMS residence. Soon after this, an unmarked van drove up and parked in the garage area in the rear of the house. A husky white male with dark, wavy hair, a dark bushy beard, appearing to

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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be between thirty and forty years of age, got out of the van and spoke to WILLIAMS for approximately ten minutes.

SOTO stated that he does not know the name of this man and does not recognize the name

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WILLIAMS and SOTO drove in WILLIAMS' Blazer to Westwind Sport Parachute Club in Jenkinsburg, Georgia, to participate in the cocaine smuggling operation. They arrived at approximately 7:45 p.m. Upon arriving, they noticed that there were people on the runway and a plane was in the air. WILLIAMS expressed displeasure upon seeing this because WILLIAMS expected the runway to be deserted. They saw a man riding a motorcycle at the runway; WILLIAMS said that this man was an employee at the Parachute Club. SOTO does not know if this man was a part of the ground crew.

SOTO stated that the plan as he knew it was that THORNTON was originally supposed to deliver the cocaine to Colombians in Florida. SOTO believed that THORNTON was stealing the cocaine from the Colombians. SOTO believed that THORNTON planned on unloading the cocaine at the runway in Jenkinsburg, or at another pre-arranged site, and later skydive from the plane with a part of the cocaine load strapped to his body leaving the plane to crash. He would then deliver the partial load to the Colombians claiming that he was being followed by law enforcement agents and had to abandon the plane, and most of the cocaine; retaining only that which he could strap to his body before jumping. SOTO stated that he had been told by an associate of THORNTON's at DeLand, Florida, that THORNTON had stolen cocaine from Colombians in the past incorporating this same plan. SOTO stated that it was understood between WILLIAMS and himself that this operation was to be a "ripoff."

WILLIAMS expected THORNTON to arrive at the Jenkinsburg runway at dusk. The plan, as WILLIAMS described it to SOTO, was for the plane flying from Colombia, South America, carrying THORNTON and another person, to land at the runway in Jenkinsburg. Here, the cocaine would be dumped onto the runway and the plane was to fly off. The cocaine was to be picked up by the driver of a van who was waiting at the runway with WILLIAMS

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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and SOTO. The cocaine would be put into the van and taken to a pre-determined location. WILLIAMS and SOTO, driving in WILLIAMS' Blazer, was to follow the van and ensure that the van reached its destination; if necessary by colliding with any vehicle following the van. SOTO stated that he does not know the identity of the driver of the van nor does he know if it was the same driver that he had seen at WILLIAMS' residence because SOTO stated that he never actually saw this man at Jenkinsburg. SOTO stated that he does not know where the cocaine was supposed to be delivered. SOTO stated that he does not know the identity of the second man in THORNTON's plane.

WILLIAMS and SOTO drove to a convenience store to wait for the runway to become deserted. After approximately one hour, WILLIAMS told SOTO that they should go to the secondary drop zone in northern Georgia. They drove the Blazer north, following the highway signs for Chattanooga, and then driving along dark mountain roads. After driving approximately two or three hours, they arrived at the drop zone. It was referred to by WILLIAMS as the "orchard" and was located relatively close to the Tennessee border. The drop zone was located at the top of a hill or mountain. WILLIAMS expected to find THORNTON or the second man in the plane already at the orchard along with cocaine dropped from the plane on cargo parachutes.

WILLIAMS and SOTO drove from the orchard drop zone to a small airport nearby. This airport was marked by a beacon spot light. There were bulldozers and a construction site next to the airport. SOTO could not state how far the airport was from the drop zone. After searching for THORNTON's plane at the airport, they drove back to the orchard drop zone. After a period of time, WILLIAMS and SOTO drove back to WILLIAMS' residence in Atlanta. They arrived in Atlanta at approximately 5:00 a.m.

WILLIAMS left for work the next morning, September 11, 1985, and SOTO remained in WILLIAMS' residence waiting for THORNTON to telephone. WILLIAMS returned at approximately 5:30 p.m., and learned of THORNTON's death on the television news. WILLIAMS called the airlines to find the next flight leaving Atlanta for New York. WILLIAMS drove SOTO to the airport and paid, with his credit card, SOTO's fare for his flight. SOTO

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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left Atlanta at approximately 9:00 p.m.

SOTO stated that he would not be surprised to discover that THORNTON had other ground crews that WILLIAMS was not aware of set up to receive the cocaine. THORNTON was the type who liked to leave his options open and have a number of contingency plans.

SOTO stated that he never received any of the ten thousand dollars promised him by THORNTON for participating in the operation.

SOTO stated that he is an active skydiver and does most of his jumping at the West Point Military Academy in New York.

SOTO stated that he has not heard from nor spoken to anyone involved in the operation since he returned to New York from Atlanta.

SOTO stated that he would be willing to take a polygraph examination.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 11/6/85

1

RUBEN SOTO, 134 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, was warned by Special Agent (SA) [redacted] of certain rights which he waived as shown on an executed warning and waiver form. SOTO thereafter furnished the following signed statement:

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"I, Ruben Soto, hereby make the following free and voluntary statement to [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No promises or threats have been made to me. I have been advised by Special Agent [redacted] that I am being interviewed in connection with my possible involvement in the crash of a Cessna 208 Caravan airplane which occurred in Butts County, Georgia and, as a result of which, 17 people were killed; also in connection with my involvement in cocaine trafficking in September of 1985 in Georgia and elsewhere.

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"I presently reside at 134 Graham Avenue, Brooklyn, New York and was born on July 17, 1950 at Brooklyn, New York and can read and write the english language.

"I met Drew Thorton and David Williams at the Easter Boogie at Deland, Florida during the spring of 1982 or 1983. Thorton and I became friends mostly due to my military experience. I am airborne qualified and special forces qualified due to my involvement in the United States Marine Corps. Thorton told me he was interested in using me on drop zone crews due to my knowledge of military night infiltration.

"On one occasion, Thorton asked me to go to New Orleans and help with a drop zone. The deal was called off, but Thorton allowed me to keep \$500.00 as a

1012-303-88

Investigation on 10/12/85 at New York, New York File # AT12D-738
SA [redacted]
SA [redacted] Date dictated 10/15/85

AT149A-703

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AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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retainer. Thorton kept in touch with me and helped me out in some tough financial situations. I felt indebted to Thorton.

"Thorton called me and told me he'd pay me ten thousand dollars to fly down to Atlanta, Georgia and participate in a drop zone operation. I was supposed to fly down the week of August 25th, 1985 as the drop was to be made August 27, 1985. On August 27, 1985 Thorton called me and called it off. On September 8, 1985, Thorton called me and told me to fly down to Atlanta, Georgia on Tuesday, September 10, 1985 and that David Williams would meet me at the airport.

"I flew on Delta Airlines and arrived at Atlanta airport at around noon, September 10, 1985. The plane was delayed and arrived later than scheduled.

"David Williams picked me up at the airport in his Mercedes with the license plate SKYDIV. We had lunch and then drove to William's business office. I waited in the car while Williams went into his office for about five minutes. From there we went to William's house. We talked about the drops which were supposed to be made the evening of September 10, 1985 at around dusk. The plan called for Drew Thorton to fly from Columbia, South America with loads of cocaine and to land at West Wind Parachute Club in Butts County, Georgia and unload the cocaine. From there, the cocaine was to be loaded into a vehicle and driven to a predetermined location. I do not know where this location was. I was hired to provide security for the drop by examining exit routes and to follow, with David Williams, in William's red Blazer, the vehicle carrying the cocaine. If any one tried to follow the vehicle with the cocaine, we were to interfere with it, allowing the load to go free.

"While at the house, Williams called his secretary and arranged a meeting for that after noon. He told his secretary that he could only meet until 4:00 p.m.

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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At around 2:00 p.m., Williams left his home to attend a meeting; I remained at his house. He returned at about 4:30 pm. He changed from the suit he was wearing into jeans and sneakers. We got into his Blazer and drove to a small airport. The airport was busy with a lot of small single engine and twin engine aircraft. We parked the blazer and got into William's small, 2-passenger, single engine plane. This we flew to another airport. The flight took approximately one hour.

"We arrived at the airport where William's new Caravan was being inspected. Williams spoke with a man who was husky, in his late 40's, who was white and wore no uniform. This man told Williams that he had a slight oil leak in the Caravan but nothing was really wrong with the plane. We got into the Caravan and flew back to the first airport. The trip took about twenty minutes. At this airport, Williams told a woman to fill the Caravan with fuel. He gave the woman a package which I believe contained the registration papers for the Caravan; the envelope said "Midnight Express".

"We drove the Blazer back to William's house. A white male arrived at the house to speak to Williams. He drove a van to the rear of the house and Williams went out to speak to him. He had a dark beard and long wavy hair, down to almost his shoulders. He wore a baseball cap. He was fairly husky, and appeared to be in his thirties. I don't know this man's name.

"At about 7:00 pm on September 10, 1985, Williams and I drove the Blazer down to West Wind Parachute Club to make the pick-up. We got there at about 7:45 pm. There was still a plane up in the air and there were people at the drop zone; this upset Williams. We drove to a gas station and waited for these people to leave; Williams did not want to be seen. At about 8:45 pm we drove up to the drop zone. We waited for the plane. At about 9:00 pm Williams decided to drive to the

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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secondary drop-zone which was in northern Georgia. We drove the Blazer toward Chattanooga, Tennessee then got off of the highway and drove along winding roads till we got to the secondary drop-zone. This trip took about two or three hours. This drop-zone was on the top of a mountain. Williams described it as an orchard. I believe it was close to the Tennessee border. The plan was for the second man in the plane to jump from the plane with the cocaine and to use cargo chutes for the rest. We waited there for about twenty minutes and then drove to a small airport nearby to see if the plane landed there. This airport was marked by a light beacon and around the back of the airport there were bulldozers. Because there was no sign of Thorton's aircraft, we drove back to the secondary drop-zone at the orchard. We waited there for about ten minutes and Williams got out of the Blazer and looked at the tree line looking for canopies. Then we drove back to Atlanta and William's home. We got home when it was just starting to get light outside. Williams and I went to bed, I slept on the sofa. Early the next morning, Williams woke me up and told me to monitor his answering machine; to answer the phone if Thorton called. Williams left early in the morning dressed in a business suit. He came back to the house at about 5:30 pm. We heard on the television news that Drew Thorton was killed while jumping. He received a phone call at this time; I don't remember him making any calls other than to find out the next flight from Atlanta to New York. We drove in the Mercedes to the Atlanta airport and he bought a plane ticket on Delta Airlines for me. He paid for it with a credit card; I was out of money. I flew out of Atlanta around 9:00 pm.

"I believed that Thorton was ripping off the Columbians because I had heard that Thorton had done a similar thing once before from someone I met a Deland, Florida. He told me that Thorton had landed a plane, unloaded the cocaine, went back up with some cocaine strapped to him and then bailed out allowing the plane

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

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to crash. He would claim that he was being followed and had to bail out and the people he ripped off would assume that the authorities had the cocaine at the crash site.

"I was never paid any of the ten thousand dollars I was promised.

"I have read this five page statement, have initialed all corrections, and it is entirely true and correct.

"/s/ Ruben Soto 10/12/85

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"WITNESS:

[redacted] SA, FBI, New York, N.Y. 10/12/85
[redacted] SA, FBI, New York, NY, 10/12/85"

In addition to the above signed statement, the following description of RUBEN SOTO was obtained from observation and interview:

Name	RUBEN SOTO
Date of Birth	July 17, 1950
Place of Birth	Brooklyn, New York
Sex	Male
Race	Hispanic
Height	5 feet 6 inches
Weight	135 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Tattoos	"Airborne" and parachute on left forearm; United States Marine Corps insignia on right forearm
Residence	134 Graham Avenue Apartment 2 Brooklyn, New York
Telephone Number	718-782-1660

AT 12D-738
AT 149A-703

6

Present Employment

DEL GUDICEI ENTERPRISES

55 Voorhis Lane

Hackensack, New Jersey

(Mechanic)

Telephone - 201-488-2226

Past Employment

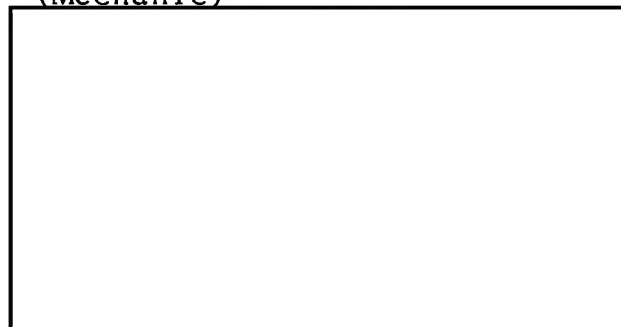
S. AXMAN AND SON WATERPROOFING

Utica Avenue

Brooklyn, New York

(Mechanic)

Ex-wife



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Children

Vehicles

None

Social Security

Account Number

101-40-3755

Father

Brothers



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/27/85

On September 24, 1985, at 5:27 p.m., Special Agent [redacted] received an anonymous telephone call from an individual wanting to provide important information concerning ANDREW (DREW) THORTON. The anonymous caller would not identify himself due to the fact the information being provided was singular in nature and he believed there would be possible repercussions if his identity was learned.

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The caller stated DAVID WILLIAMS was a partner and the co-conspirator of THORTON in THORTON's cocaine and illegal drug activity. The caller stated WILLIAMS is a very prominent businessman located in the Buckhead area, Atlanta, Georgia, and is himself an expert skydiver. WILLIAMS is the sole owner of Air Carrier Express Services and owns 49 percent of a corporation by the name of Mid States Group. The caller stated WILLIAMS can be a very violent person and is in very serious financial shape. The caller indicated WILLIAMS had embezzled in excess of \$300,000 from the Mid States Group. WILLIAMS' embezzlement activities were discovered by WILLIAMS' majority partner whom the caller indicated is going to cover up the theft.

The caller advised WILLIAMS was supposed to pick up THORTON the day before THORTON came to Atlanta and also on the day THORTON died. The caller suggested that the flight records of Air Carrier Express Services be compared to those identified with THORTON which should indicate the two coincided. The caller further indicated WILLIAMS will be "harboring" [redacted] who apparently was [redacted]

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The caller would provide no more additional information citing the fact should he give any more information his identity would be obvious.

612-303-89

Investigation on 9/24/85 at Atlanta, Georgia File # AT 12G -738
by SA [redacted] mkw Date dictated 9/24/85

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Insert is included in a report, note under the Administrative
lengthy period between the dictation date and date of the
s due to the delinquency in the Atlanta Steno Pool.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

12/19/85

Date of transcription

1

[redacted] (PROTECT), [redacted]
DELTA AIR LINES, Atlanta, Georgia, provided the following
information:

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[redacted] stated that DELTA AIR LINES microfilm records indicate that on September 10, 1985, a person representing himself to be RUBIN SOTO bought a one way ticket from New York City - LA GUARDIA AIRPORT to ATLANTA HARTSFIELD AIRPORT. This ticket was stamped at the boarding gate for Flight Number 803 leaving New York City at 8:30 a.m. on September 10, 1985.

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[redacted] stated that DELTA AIR LINES microfilm records indicate that on September 11, 1985, a one way ticket was purchased in the name of RUBIN SOTO, using a credit card owned by DAVID WILLIAMS. This ticket was stamped at the boarding gate for Flight 710 leaving Atlanta at 8:35 p.m. on October 11, 1985.

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[redacted] turned over copies of these microfilmed tickets to the interviewing Agent.

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62-303-90

Investigation on 10/21/85 at Atlanta, Georgia File # AT 12D-738
SA [redacted] mt 149A-703
by _____ Date dictated 10/21/85

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AIRTEL

1/10/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738) (RUC) (SQ 6)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II.
NARCOTICS - ITG
OO: LOUISVILLE

Reference telephone call between SA [redacted]
Atlanta Division, and SA [redacted] Lexington RA, of January 2,
1986:

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Enclosed for the Lexington RA are the following:

1. Original FD-302 reflecting interview of RUBEN
SOTO on 10/11/85, and interview notes.

2. Original FD-302 reflecting statment provided
by RUBEN SOTO on 10/12/85, and original statement made
and signed by SOTO and interview notes.

3. FD-395 Waiver of Rights form executed by RUBEN
SOTO on 10/12/85, and interview log of RUBEN SOTO OF 10/12/85.

4. Handwriting exemplars taken from RUBEN SOTO
on 10/11/85.

5. Original FD-302 reflecting the interview
of [redacted] DELTA AIR LINES, conducted on 10/7/85.

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6. Copy of FD-302 reflecting the interview of
[redacted] conducted on 10/5/85.

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7. Original FD-302 reflecting an anonymous telephone
call made to SA [redacted] on 9/24/85.

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① - Louisville (Enc.14)

2 - Atlanta

CJJ:lmf

(4)

12-303-91
RDI
CJJ

JM

AT 12D-738

8. Copy of FD-302 reflecting interview of []
[] conducted on 10/4/85.

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9. Copy of FD-302 reflecting an interview of
[] conducted on 10/3/85.

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10. Copy of FD-302 reflecting interview of []
[] conducted on 10/9/85.

11. Copy of FD-302 reflecting interview of []
[] conducted on 10/4/85.

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12. Copy of FD-302 reflecting interview of []
[] conducted on 10/17/85.

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13. Copy of FD-302 reflecting interview of []
[] conducted on 10/8/85.

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14. Original FD-302 reflecting interview of
[] conducted on 10/21/85, and microfiche records
provided by her.

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As Louisville is aware, Atlanta Division has been conducting two investigations, one of which involves DAVID WILLIAMS narcotics trafficking activities and the other which concerns the crash of his Cessna Caravan airplane in Jenkinsburg, Georgia, on September 29, 1985. This latter investigation is entitled "UNSUB(S); DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC; DAMV; OO: ATLANTA", AT File Number 149A-703 and is still pending in the Atlanta Division. To date, myriad interviews have been conducted which pertain to both case files. As discussed in referenced telephone call, Atlanta Division is forwarding to the Louisville Division those FD-302s of interviews which appear germane to the ongoing narcotics investigation.

Additionally, copies of FD-302s which Atlanta believes will be of interest to Louisville Division are being forwarded. Atlanta is maintaining the originals of all other FD-302's in file Atlanta 149A-703.

As discussed in referenced telephone call, Atlanta interviews have revealed that WILLIAMS likely turned to cocaine trafficking only recently in order to offset his mounting debts. He allegedly had embezzled \$350,000 from

AT 12D-738

his company, the MID-STATES GROUP, and was desperately trying to pay back this money before the embezzlement was discovered. WILLIAMS had incurred large debts subsequent to his purchase of a Cessna Caravan airplane which he bought in the Spring of 1985. WILLIAMS had known ANDREW CARTER THORNTON for several years. They originally met at a skydiving meet and became friends through their mutual interest in parachuting. They often appeared at meets together throughout the United States. It appears likely that WILLIAMS was aware that THORNTON was a narcotics trafficker but, until WILLIAMS became greatly indebted, he was not involved with THORNTON in cocaine smuggling.

As explained in enclosed FD-302s reflecting the interview of RUBEN SOTO and his signed statement, WILLIAMS and SOTO were scheduled to meet THORNTON at the WESTWIND SPORT AND PARACHUTE CLUB, Jenkinsburg, Georgia, at dusk on the evening of September 10, 1985, where THORNTON was scheduled to land his airplane and off-load an undetermined amount of high grade cocaine. SOTO and WILLIAMS were to act as security for this load while an unidentified third person was to transport the load to an undetermined location. Atlanta Division has not been able to positively identify this third person. When THORNTON did not appear on time, SOTO and WILLIAMS drove to the secondary drop zone, which SOTO described as an orchard in North Georgia. SOTO and WILLIAMS searched for cocaine until early in the morning of September 11, 1985. When they were unable to locate any more loads, they returned to WILLIAMS' home in Atlanta. Upon hearing of THORNTON's death, SOTO returned to his home in Brooklyn, New York via commercial airliner.

Atlanta investigation has been able to corroborate WILLIAMS' schedule, as provided by SOTO, through other various interviews.

On 1/6/86, Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI), Gainesville, GA, provided the following information regarding his agency's seizures of cocaine to date that were part of THORNTON'S September 10, 1985, load:

September 14, 1985 - 102 kilos were found in Fannin County, Georgia, loaded in three duffel bags suspended from a parachute.

AT 12D-738

November 5, 1985 - 34 kilos were found in a single duffel bag in Fannin County, Georgia.

December 20, 1985 - A duffel bag containing an indeterminate amount of cocaine was found in Fannin County, Georgia, near the carcass of a dead bear. The bear had apparently slashed the duffel bag and ingested an unknown amount of cocaine which caused his death. GBI officials believe that this duffel bag originally contained 34 kilos of cocaine and it is unknown whether any was carried off or whether it was destroyed through exposure.

December 28, 1985 - 102 kilos were found in Fannin County, Georgia, loaded in three duffel bags suspended from a parachute.

Additionally, on September 12, 1985, a Sheriff's deputy in Cherokee County, Georgia, found a parachute tangled in the trees in a rural part of that county. The straps on this parachute had been slashed and the payload removed. Subsequent investigation by the GBI Laboratory positively identified this parachute and its accompanying straps as being identical to the others used by THORNTON. GBI investigators speculate that this was another of THORNTON'S loads that probably contained three duffel bags with a total of 102 kilos inside. No suspects have as yet been identified regarding the whereabouts of this load.

Based on the above, and counting the 34 kilos of cocaine found on THORNTON'S body at the time of his death, a total of 408 kilos have been accounted for. Of this total, 272 kilos are currently in the possession of law enforcement personnel.

Atlanta Division has been unable to develop further subjects in this investigation. Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [redacted] Eastern District of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, has informed Atlanta Division that his office has been conducting an extensive investigation into THORNTON'S narcotics trafficking activities. AUSA [redacted] has stated that he expects to indict and prosecute those involved with THORNTON'S organization in the near future. Atlanta Division has kept AUSA [redacted] informed of all events in this investigation.

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AT 12D-738

Inasmuch as prosecution of all potential subjects is expected to occur in the Eastern District of Tennessee and no further investigation remains outstanding in Atlanta, this matter is being considered RUC.

VZVCCH002112
RR HQ LS

DE AT

R 162200Z JAN 86FM ATLANTA (120-738) (P) (SQ 6)
TO LOUISVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

✓ 126-303
ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III; NARCOTICS - ITG; OO: LOUISVILLE.

FOR INFORMATION OF LOUISVILLE DIVISION, ON JANUARY 15, 1986,

[REDACTED] TURNED OVER TO THE GEORGIA BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION (GBI) A PARACHUTE AND THREE DUFFLE BAGS LOADED
WITH OVER TWO HUNDRED POUNDS OF COCAINE. [REDACTED] DISCOVERED THIS
LOAD IN A PASTURE ON HIS PROPERTY IN RURAL [REDACTED].
TENTATIVE IDENTIFICATION OF THIS LOAD INDICATES THAT IT MAY HAVE
BEEN PART OF ANDREW CARTER THORNTON'S LOAD THAT WAS AIR DROPPED
ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1985. THIS LATEST LOAD WAS DISCOVERED APPROXI-
MATELY TWO MILES FROM THE WESTWIND SPORT PARACHUTE CLUB, THE SITE
THAT HAD BEEN DESIGNATED AS THE PRIMARY OFF-LOAD SITE FOR THORNTON'S
COCAINE.

ATLANTA DIVISION WILL COORDINATE WITH GBI TO VERIFY THIS LOAD

12-303-92

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 17 1986	
LOUISVILLE	

[REDACTED]

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PAGE TWO (AT 12D-738) UNCLAS

WAS FROM THORNTONS AIRCRAFT AND ADVISE LOUISVILLE.

BT

VZCZCH002071

PP HQ AL AT LS WFO

DE RH 0001 0181555

ZNY UUUUU

R 181547Z JAN 86

FM FBI RICHMOND (12E-NEW) (P)

TO DIRECTOR FBI PRIORITY

FBI ALBANY PRIORITY

FBI ATLANTA PRIORITY

FBI LOUISVILLE (12D-303) PRIORITY

ATTN: LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, RESIDENT AGENCY

FBI WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE () PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (DECEASED), NARCOTICS MATTER, OO: LS

RE RICHMOND TELEPHONE CALL TO LOUISVILLE (SA [REDACTED])
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, RESIDENT AGENCY), ON JANUARY 17, 1986, AND
RICHMOND TELEPHONE CALL TO WFO (SA [REDACTED]), ON JANUARY 17,
1986.

ON DECEMBER 27, 1985, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED AT RICHMOND AND ADVISED THAT HE

12E-303

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 20 1986	
FBI - WFO	

ch [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

12-303-98

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PAGE TWO DE RH 0001 UNCLAS

IS PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED HIS SUPERIORS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]

PRESENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION BY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,
USMA, MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE DEATH OF CAPTIONED SUBJECT.

[REDACTED] ADVISED [REDACTED] IN THEIR ROLES AS

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] TO

[REDACTED] WERE IN CONTACT WITH (FIRST NAME UNKNOWN)

[REDACTED] (PHONETIC), A MEMBER OF THE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHO [REDACTED] KNOWS TO BE AN

ASSOCIATE OF CAPTIONED SUBJECT. SHORTLY BEFORE CAPTIONED SUBJECT'S
DEATH FROM A MALFUNCTIONING PARACHUTE, [REDACTED] HAD VISITED USMA
PARACHUTE CLUB CARRYING TWO HIGH ALTITUDE PARACHUTE SYSTEMS (HAPS),
SYSTEMS COMPOSED OF MAIN AND RESERVE PARACHUTES, ONE SYSTEM GRAY AND
ONE SYSTEM BLACK, AND HAD ASKED [REDACTED] TO ALTER
THE SYSTEMS TO ACCEPT CARGO STRAPS IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT BE USED
FOR A 200 POUND DOOR BUNDLE. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT THE GRAY HAPS IS
KNOWN TO HIM TO BE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AND CAN BE

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PAGE THREE DE RH 0001 UNCLAS

FITTED WITH EITHER A REMOTE CONTROL OR MANUALLY ACTIVATED TRACKING SYSTEM.

[REDACTED] WHO [REDACTED] ONCE SUSPECTED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY DELTA TEAM, CAME BACK APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK LATER AND ASKED IF HIS PARACHUTES WERE READY. [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] REPLIED, IN A VERY CONSPIRATORIAL MANNER ACCOMPANIED BY GRINS AND WINKS, THAT THE PARACHUTE WAS READY. [REDACTED] HAD ALTERED ONE OR BOTH OF THE PARACHUTES TO CARRY A7A CARGO STRAPS.

AFTER CAPTIONED SUBJECT WAS KILLED, [REDACTED] RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM AN OLD ASSOCIATE, [REDACTED] (PHONETIC), A [REDACTED] WORKING AT THE [REDACTED] AT [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] IS A UNIT SPECIALIZING IN RESEARCH AND REPAIR OF USA PARACHUTES.

IT IS [REDACTED] UNDERSTANDING THAT, WHEN THORTONS PARACHUTE WAS RECOVERED BY BUAGENTS, IT WAS FORWARDED TO ACEBOARD UNIT FOR EXAMINATION AND THAT [REDACTED] WAS ASSIGNED INSPECTION. [REDACTED] ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] VERSION, FOUND THE PARACHUTE DATA CARD, WHICH LISTED [REDACTED] AS THE INDIVIDUAL WHO PACKED SAME.

UPON RECEIVING [REDACTED] TELEPHONE CALL, [REDACTED] WENT TO THE MASTER PARACHUTE LOG AT THE [REDACTED] AND TOLD [REDACTED] HE HAD

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PAGE FOUR DE RH-0001 UNCLAS

NOT LOGGED THE FACT THAT HE HAD PACKED THE PARACHUTE, WHICH [REDACTED] SAYS IS A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) RULES. THAT EVENING, [REDACTED] FLEW ON UNEXPLAINED TEMPORARY DUTY TO [REDACTED] WHERE [REDACTED] SUSPECTS THEY CONSPIRED WITH [REDACTED] TO REMOVE ANY EVIDENCE OF TAMPERING AND TO ALTER THE PARACHUTE DATA CARD. TO SUBSTANTIATE THIS CLAIM, [REDACTED] NOTES THAT, SHORTLY AFTER [REDACTED] RETRIEVED THE TWO HAPS, [REDACTED] FOUND SECTIONS OF VERY FINE MONOFILAMENT NYLON THREAD, WHICH [REDACTED] ASSERTS HAS ABSOLUTELY NO PLACE IN A PARACHUTE REPAIR SHOP. [REDACTED] BELIEVES IT HIGHLY POSSIBLE THAT, BY WRAPPING AFOREMENTIONED MONOFILAMENT AROUND ONE OF THE RISERS OF THE HAPS, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO CAUSE THE PARACHUTES MALFUNCTION. [REDACTED] IS ALSO OF THE OPINION THAT CAPTIONED SUBJECT MAY HAVE BEEN EITHER DEAD OR UNCONSCIOUS PRIOR TO HIS EXIT FROM THE AIRPLANE AND THAT HE WAS NOT THE ONLY PASSENGER ABOARD THE AIRPLANE. [REDACTED] FURTHER STATED THAT IT IS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THORNTON MADE AT LEAST ONE OTHER DROP OF COCAINE IN GEORGIA PRIOR TO EXITING THE AIRPLANE.

[REDACTED] HIMSELF AN ADMITTED [REDACTED] WHO IS PRESENTLY UNDER INVESTIGATION BY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE BELIEVES BOTH [REDACTED] AND

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[REDACTED] AS WELL AS [REDACTED] AND THORNTON, ARE MEMBERS OF A "COCAINE TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION CALLED THE "COMPANY" OR "CORPORATION," A GROUP OF EX-SPECIAL FORCES, RANGERS, AND CUSTOMS PERSONNEL NOW INVOLVED IN SMUGGLING COCAINE.

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[REDACTED] BELIEVES THAT [REDACTED] HIMSELF A [REDACTED] MAY HAVE FLOWN FOR THE AFOREMENTIONED COCAINE TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION, MAKING DRUG DROPS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

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[REDACTED] ARE STILL EMPLOYED AT [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] BELIEVES [REDACTED] IS NOW AT THE [REDACTED] CENTER AT [REDACTED] HAS BEEN THREATENED WITH DEATH BY [REDACTED] IF HE CONTINUES ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT [REDACTED] ACTIVITIES. IN ADDITION, [REDACTED] ADVISES THAT HE HAS BEEN WARNED BY [REDACTED] NOT TO TALK ABOUT WHAT HE HAS LEARNED, THAT THE "FBI WILL HANDLE WHAT THEY WANT TO." [REDACTED] WHO ALSO ALLEGES WIDESPREAD COCAINE USE BY USMA CADETS AND PERSONNEL, BELIEVES THAT THE MILITARY INTENDS TO COVER UP ANY DEROGATORY INFORMATION ABOUT USMA, FEARING A SCANDLE THERE.

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[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT HE HAS MET SA [REDACTED] WFO, SINCE BOTH ARE PARACHUTE ENTHUSIASTS. THIS FACT WAS CONFIRMED IN A TELEPHONIC CONVERSATION ON JANUARY 16, 1986, BETWEEN SA [REDACTED] AND SA [REDACTED]

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PAGE SIX DE RH 0001 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] RICHMOND DIVISION.

RICHMOND DIVISION DESIRES TO REINTERVIEW [REDACTED] IN THE PRESENCE OF SA [REDACTED] DUE TO SA [REDACTED] PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF [REDACTED] AND SA [REDACTED] TECHNICAL EXPERTISE IN THE AREA OF PARACHUTES. IT IS NOTED SA [REDACTED] IS QUALIFIED AS A MASTER PARACHUTE RIGGER FROM FAA, AS WELL AS BEING AN ENTHUSIAST OF THE SPORT. IN ADDITION, SA [REDACTED] IS PRESENTLY WORKING NARCOTICS MATTERS AT WFO.

ON JANUARY 17, 1986, [REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THAT HE WILL BE IN THE RICHMOND DIVISION FOR WEEKEND LEAVE ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 20, 1986, AND CAN MEET WITH BUAGENTS AT RICHMOND HEADQUARTERS.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE, AT WASHINGTON, D. C. - REQUEST SA [REDACTED] BE ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO RICHMOND DIVISION ON MORNING OF JANUARY 20, 1986, TO ASSIST IN REINTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] IN REFERENCE TO [REDACTED] KNOWLEDGE OF CAPTIONED SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES AND OTHER NARCOTICS RELATED ACTIVITIES.

SAC, RICHMOND, CONCURS WITH TRAVEL OF SA [REDACTED]

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 20 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 1/22/86

TO: SAC, ATLANTA (149A-703) (SQ. 8)

FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303) (P)

UNSUB(S);
 DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
 TAIL #N551CC;
 DAMV; NARCOTICS
 OO: ATLANTA

Re Atlanta airtel to Louisville dated 10/21/85.

On 1/22/86, investigation conducted at Covington, Kentucky revealed that the 1986 Haines Criss Cross Directory for Northern Kentucky disclosed that telephone number

[redacted] is issued to [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] Boone County Police Department, Burlington, Kentucky, advised her records were negative regarding [redacted] further advised her records were negative regarding [redacted] except for a traffic violation dated 10/22/83, at which time he was charged with improper passing. [redacted] paid the fine 11/30/83.

Information obtained from the citation revealed

[redacted] to be a [redacted] DOB [redacted]

[redacted] Director, Northern Kentucky Drug Unit, Florence, Kentucky, was contacted on 1/22/86 and advised his files were negative regarding [redacted] as being involved in any narcotic activity.

2 - Atlanta (149A-703)
 ② - Louisville (12G-303)

RWK/rc

(4) *rc*

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12D-303-94

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ Per *TPD*
 (Number) (Time)

Searched _____
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 Filed *TP*

[redacted] *W*b6
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b7Cb6
b7Cb6
b7Cb6
b7C

BRUIN'S RUIN

Bear stumbles onto cocaine, dies of overdose in Georgia

Associated Press

BLUE RIDGE, Ga. — Bears found a shipment of cocaine dropped into a north Georgia forest before drug agents could get to it, and at least one bruin died of a very expensive high.

Forty packets containing an estimated 88 pounds of the sweet-smelling powder had been torn open and the drug eaten or scattered when agents found it Friday.

The ripped duffel bag and shredded packages were believed to be the last traces of a drug shipment dropped from a small plane by Andrew Thornton, a 40-year-old former narcotics officer who fell to his death in Knoxville, Tenn., on Sept. 11, said Gary Garner of the Georgia

Bureau of Investigation.

"The bear got to it before we could, and he tore the duffel bag open, got him some cocaine and OD'd," Garner said. "The bears have apparently scattered them [the packages] all over the hillsides. We don't know how many bears are involved. We know there was one, because we found him. There's nothing left but bones and a big hide."

Investigators said the black bear, which weighed more than 150 pounds, had been dead about four weeks.

GBI agents found the bear's re-

See BEAR

Back page, col. 4, this section

Continued from Page One
hains in Fannin County in the mountains just south of the Tennessee line.

The agents were searching for cocaine believed dropped by Thornton, of Lexington, Ky., who had two parachutes and 77 pounds of cocaine strapped to him when he died in Knoxville.

Thornton died an hour before an unmanned airplane crashed into a North Carolina mountain. A key bearing the plane's identification number was found in his pocket.

Friday's find was the third in Georgia, and was less than 100 yards from where GBI agents found about 75 pounds of cocaine in duffel bags in early November.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE LOUISVILLE TIMES
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-1

Date: 12/23/85

Edition: EVENING

Title: BRUIN'S RUIN: BEAR
STUMBLES ONTO COCAINE, DIES
OF OVERDOSE IN GEORGIA

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LS 12-303

Indexing:

12-303-95

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

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RR AL LS

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R 28 0219Z JAN 86

FM ATLANTA (12D-738) (P) (SQ 6)

TO ALBANY (149A-303) ROUTINE

LOUISVILLE ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

UNSUBS; DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 207, TAIL NUMBER N551CC; JENKINSBURG,
GEORGIA; DAMV; NARCOTICS; OO: ATLANTA (AT 149A-703)
ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS-D; OO: LOUISVILLE; (AT 12D-
738). *12G-303 198-299*

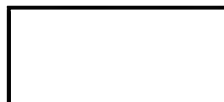
REFERENCE ALBANY AIRTEL TO ATLANTA DATED JANUARY 7, 1986.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF LOUISVILLE, REFERENCED AIRTEL CONTAINS
INFORMATION PROVIDED BY ALBANY SOURCE [REDACTED] WHICH INDICATES
THAT [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING
CAPTIONED CASES WHICH THEY ARE WITHHOLDING FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICIALS. ALBANY DIVISION BELIEVES THAT [REDACTED]

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PAGE TWO AT 12D-738 UNCLAS

WHO HAVE ALSO BEEN IMPLICATED IN THE THEFT OF INCENDIARY SMOKE GRENADES FROM THE ARMY, ARE CONCERNED THAT THEIR MILITARY CAREERS ARE IN JEOPARDY DUE TO THEIR CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND ASSOCIATION WITH THORNTON.

[REDACTED] BELIEVES THAT [REDACTED]

WOULD BE

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[REDACTED]

ALBANY DIVISION HAS REQUESTED THAT ATLANTA DIVISION ATTEMPT TO CORROBORATE THEIR SOURCE INFORMATION.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF ALBANY DIVISION, FBI LABORATORY ANALYSIS HAS FAILED TO DISCLOSE THAT SABOTAGE WAS INVOLVED IN THE CRASH OF DAVID WILLIAMS CESSNA CARAVAN AIRCRAFT IN JENKINSBURG, GEORGIA. INVESTIGATION INTO THE NARCOTICS ORGANIZATION HEADED BY ANDREW CARTER THORNTON HAS SHOWN THAT VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE WEST POINT PARACHUTE CLUB, IN PARTICULAR [REDACTED]

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HAD DEALINGS WITH THORNTON AND WERE LIKELY INVOLVED IN HIS COCAINE DISTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES. VARIOUS SOURCES HAVE STATED THAT [REDACTED]

SUPPLIED THE PARACHUTES THAT THORNTON USED WHEN HE DROPPED HIS VARIOUS LOADS OF COCAINE ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND 10, 1985, AND ONE SOURCE HAS STATED THAT [REDACTED] WAS ABOARD THORNTON'S AIRPLANE WHEN HE FLEW FROM COLUMB

PAGE THREE AT 12D-178 UNCLAS

ON SEPTEMBER 9, 1985. [REDACTED] ALLEGEDLY BAILED OUT OF THIS PLANE
PRIOR TO THORNTON. [REDACTED] HAS BEEN QUESTIONED CONCERNING
HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THORNTON AND HE HAS PRODUCED SEVERAL WITNESSES
WHO STATE THAT HE WAS AT [REDACTED] WHEN THORNTON DIED

IT IS BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT [REDACTED] AND HIS ASSOCIATES HAVE EXTEN

SIVE KNOWLEDGE REFERENCE THORNTON AND WOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPLY MUCH INFO

ATION REGARDING HIS COCAINE IMPORTATION ACTIVITIES. CURRENTLY, AUSA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] EASTERN DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, IS DIRECT

THE FEDERAL INVESTIGATION OF THORNTON AND HIS ASSOCIATES. ATLANTA
DIVISION HAS SUPPLIED ALL RESULTS OF ITS INVESTIGATION REFERENCE
THORNTON TO LOUISVILLE DIVISION WHO IS OFFICE OF ORIGIN IN THIS MATTER.

AS NO EVIDENCE HAS BEEN UNCOVERED TO INDICATE THAT SABOTAGE
WAS INVOLVED IN THE CRASH OF DAVID WILLIAMS AIRPLANE, ATLANTA INTENDS
TO CLOSE DAMV INVESTIGATION IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ATLANTA
DIVISION RECOMMENDS THAT ALBANY DIRECT ALL RESULTS OF ITS NARCOTICS
INVESTIGATION REFERENCE ANDREW THORNTON TO LOUISVILLE DIVISION AND
REQUESTS THAT ALBANY APPRISE ATLANTA OF ANY INFORMATION UNCOVERED
REGARDING THE CRASH OF DAVID WILLIAMS CESSNA CARAVAN AIRCRAFT.

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/7/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12G-303)
 FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (149A-703) (P) (SQ 8)
 SUBJECT: UNSUBS; DESTRUCTION OF
 CESSNA 208, TAIL #N551CC
 DAMV; NARCOTICS;
 OO: ATLANTA

Re Louisville airtel to Atlanta, dated 1/22/86.

For information of Louisville, [redacted] and

[redacted]
 are the [redacted] DAVID WILLIAMS, owner
 of captioned aircraft, ~~and~~ who died in the crash.

② - Louisville (12G-303)
 2 - Atlanta (149A-703)
 JRQ:clb
 (4)

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

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12-303-97

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FEB 13 1986	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

[redacted]

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/11/86

TO: SAC, ATLANTA

FROM: SAC, CINCINNATI (149A-365) (P)

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
 NARCOTICS (D)
 OO:LOUISVILLE
 AT FILE 12D-738

12G-303

190-299

UNSUB(s);
 DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
 TAIL NUMBER N551CC,
 DAMV;
 OO:AT
 AT FILE 149A-703

Contact was made on 2/4/86, with [redacted]
 [redacted] Ohio State Prison who advised that
 on 12/17/85, [redacted] was transported to the Southern Ohio
 Correctional Facility, Lucasville, Ohio 45699, (614) 259-5544.

LEADS:CINCINNATI DIVISIONAT PORTSMOUTH, OHIO

Interview Inmate [redacted] Southern Ohio
 Correctional Facility, Lucasville, Ohio, regarding the narcotics
 trafficking organization of ANDREW CARTER THORNTON and/or any
 knowledge he may have regarding the crash of DAVID WILLIAM's CESSNA
 208, in Butts County, Georgia, in which 17 parachutists were
 killed.

4-Atlanta
 (2-12D-738) (2-149A-703)
 ②-Louisville
 3-Cincinnati

LMH:kar

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Approved: _____ Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

12-303-98

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 23 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/30/86

1

[redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed at the offices of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI), Richmond, Virginia. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

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[redacted] is presently assigned to the [redacted]

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[redacted] was previously assigned to the [redacted]
[redacted] where he [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] his present position due to the fact that [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted]. In addition, the PARACHUTE CLUB has been closed due to an ongoing CID investigation into the activities of [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] who have been accused of [redacted]
[redacted]

[redacted] since becoming a [redacted]
[redacted] obtaining the [redacted]
[redacted] as a highly sought after position and honor. Upon [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted] perceived to be the unsafe practices utilized by [redacted]
[redacted] in the packing of the parachutes utilized by USMA cadets.

[redacted] told [redacted] that the method of packing the parachutes

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Investigation on 1/20/86 at Richmond, Virginia File # Richmond 12E-229
Louisville 12-303

by SA [redacted]; SA [redacted] Date dictated 1/24/86
SA [redacted] JPE/bwh

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

RH 12E-229

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 2

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there would lead to premature wear and tear on the parachutes, as well as resulting in a higher number of malfunctioning parachutes. [REDACTED] refused to take [REDACTED] advise and, in fact, there were a high number of injuries among the cadets due to parachute malfunctions.

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[REDACTED] the activities of [REDACTED] which included embezzlement, misuse and outright theft of government property. In [REDACTED] an FBI Agent came to talk to [REDACTED] about a whole shipment of M-18 smoke grenades with lot numbers buffed off which had been found at an area parachute club. The FBI turned the case over to CID, who began to investigate it. In an eight month period, [REDACTED] according to [REDACTED] CID, drew 1,000 smoke grenades. [REDACTED] had [REDACTED] move empty cases of smoke grenades around the [REDACTED] shop in order to mislead the CID investigators as to the number of smoke grenades [REDACTED] had actually used. [REDACTED] later told [REDACTED] and CID investigators that he had used a plane belonging to [REDACTED] (phonetic) to drop off two cases of smoke grenades at [REDACTED] parachute club.

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[REDACTED] also used [REDACTED] plane, a Cherokee 206, to ferry cadets to parachute meets at an inflated price. One of the pilots at GARDNER DROP ZONE PARACHUTE CLUB told [REDACTED] that the government was getting "ripped off," and [REDACTED] suspected that [REDACTED] was receiving a "kickback" from [REDACTED] for the leasing of the aircraft.

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[REDACTED] along with [REDACTED] (phonetic), directed meets involving USMA cadets. In October 1985, [REDACTED] the West Point Invitational Meet at GARDNER DROP ZONE PARACHUTE CLUB. During the meet, [REDACTED] one of the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] had "made well" off of the meet for having it at [REDACTED]. After the meet, [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] two large rolls of money he had in his pocket. One of the rolls was from the "kitty," part of the \$7,800.00 in fees paid by USMA cadets for the

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RH 12E-229

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 3

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GARDNER meet, but the other roll was for himself. [REDACTED] suspecting that [REDACTED] had embezzled money from the USMA students [REDACTED] how much money he had made off the meet. [REDACTED] causing [REDACTED] to state he did not want to know anything about it. The next day, [REDACTED] he had an extra \$1,300.00 from the meet and did not know where it had come from. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] the DEPARTMENT OF CADET ACTIVITIES (DCA). [REDACTED] had told DCA what the price of each cadet's participation in the meet would be, and eventually settled on a \$1,050.00 price per cadet. This was an extremely high price, higher than outsiders paid for participation in the competition.

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[REDACTED] under instructions from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] obtained \$150.00 from each cadet, of which \$32.50 was collected for the UNITED STATES PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION (USPA), which included dues, fees and USPA magazine subscription for one year. [REDACTED] for more. [REDACTED] replied that there were none available, but [REDACTED] later learned that he and [REDACTED] had them all the time. [REDACTED] was also [REDACTED] but all cadets did sign the required waiver form. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] desk. During the time [REDACTED] was in the shop, [REDACTED] was the only other person there. [REDACTED] found this odd and reported the incident, as well as the high rate of injuries the club was experiencing to Major [REDACTED] (phonetic), who was [REDACTED] of refresher training for members of the AIRBORNE DETACHMENT. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] not to worry about it and was uninterested when [REDACTED] attempted to [REDACTED]

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 4

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Subsequently, [REDACTED] began receiving complaints from USMA cadets to the effect that they had not received their membership cards of magazine subscription to USPA. A subsequent inquiry by CID determined that there was only \$600.00 in the USMA PARACHUTE CLUB account, but that [REDACTED] had \$8,000.00 in his personal account. CID investigation also determined that [REDACTED] made deposits into his account after every class [REDACTED] trained.

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During the summer of 1985, [REDACTED] became embroiled in a situation involving the theft of skylight window frames from the Post Engineers building by an individual named [REDACTED] (phonetic). [REDACTED] named (First Name Unknown) [REDACTED] (phonetic). CID had discovered the theft and was investigating [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] slide the stolen skylight window frames under a fence at the post engineers building, and CID was forced to discontinue its case after the stolen property mysteriously reappeared.

One morning in October 1985, [REDACTED] in an agitated state. [REDACTED] that he [REDACTED] was in trouble because the sewing machines assigned to the shop [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 1/20/86, Page 5

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] came to inspect the machines, but CID became aware of this.

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While at [REDACTED] ordered [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] but CID eventually obtained the parachutes.

Though the PARACHUTE CLUB at USMA was supposed to be for cadets and USMA CLUB members only, members of area clubs were constantly hanging around the parachute shop. One of the individuals who used to visit the shop was a white male known to [REDACTED] as (First Name Unknown) [REDACTED] (phonetic), whom [REDACTED] understood to be a [REDACTED] unit stationed in the area and who wore a [REDACTED], though [REDACTED] could not remember the exact unit patch. One day in [REDACTED] brought two High Altitude Parachute Systems (HAPS), composed of a main and reserve parachute each, to the USMA PARACHUTE CLUB. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A7A cargo straps are wrapped around a door bundle

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 6

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being dropped from a plane and are composed of cargo straps approximately 15 feet long, including D-rings and friction adapters, enabling a bundle of up to 500 pounds to be parachuted to the ground.

[REDACTED] talked to [REDACTED] asking him about the purpose of the A7A straps. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he had to drop a door bundle with a radio controlled parapoint system. When [REDACTED] retrieved the parachutes from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] he whispered in a conspiratorial manner to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Approximately one to two days after [REDACTED] retrieved the parachutes, [REDACTED] received a telephone call before 11:00 a.m. from [REDACTED] from the Ace Board Section at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Ace Board is a section of the United States military devoted to the research and repair of parachutes. [REDACTED] along with [REDACTED] had been a member of the UNITED STATES ARMY's Golden Knights Parachute Team.

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[REDACTED] asked if [REDACTED] was there. [REDACTED] was not, being in [REDACTED] [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that an individual by the name of THORNTON (phonetic) had been killed in a parachute jump and that [REDACTED] had packed the parachute he was wearing at the time of his death. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] The parachute had never been logged in as being packed at the USMA PARACHUTE CLUB loft as required by FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) rules. The last HAPS, a black one, was logged in in April 1985, as being packed by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] packed both the gray and black HAPS that [REDACTED] had brought in the week before. After [REDACTED] hung up the phone, [REDACTED] that, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] he [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] "ticket." That weekend [REDACTED] and, after conferring with [REDACTED] and telling [REDACTED] he was going on emergency leave, left for [REDACTED] However, [REDACTED] later

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 7

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learned that [REDACTED] had left on TDY for a "site inspection." [REDACTED] knew of no reason why such an inspection was necessary. [REDACTED] had been at [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] years, the same time as [REDACTED]. Upon their arrival in [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] to [REDACTED] suspected that [REDACTED]
met with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. As a matter of fact, [REDACTED] was very strict about prohibiting non-regulation items, which the monofilament thread was, from the parachute shop. After [REDACTED] r [REDACTED] that THORNTON had been killed after the slider on his reserve parachute malfunctioned. [REDACTED] sabotaged the parachute system by wrapping or sewing the monofilament into the riser and slider system of the HAPS system THORNTON was utilizing.

The following week after THORNTON's death, a Caravan airplane belonging to (First Name Unknown) WILLIAMS crashed, killing all 16 individuals aboard, including WILLIAMS and a close friend of [REDACTED]. That plane had been at GARDNER DROP ZONE during the summer of 1985, and [REDACTED] was familiar with the plane's mechanics, including the fuel system and filters. It was later determined that the plane had crashed because its fuel was contaminated.

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In later conversations with [REDACTED] that THORNTON and WILLIAMS were partners. [REDACTED] the people in the Caravan airplane were killed in revenge for THORNTON's death by a cocaine smuggling organization called the

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 8

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"Company" or "Corporation", a group composed of ex-special forces and CUSTOMS members now engaged in smuggling cocaine who blamed WILLIAMS for THORNTON's death.

In the summer of [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] was working for the "Corporation/Company" but that [REDACTED] had been "screwed over" by them over parachute equipment. [REDACTED] that THORNTON was [REDACTED] at one time. [REDACTED] that he did investigations "on the side," and it was [REDACTED] understanding that THORNTON had an investigative agency.

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When [REDACTED] had talked about THORNTON's parachute malfunctioning, they thought it was funny. [REDACTED] after THORNTON's death, but he [REDACTED] had changed his appearance by shaving off his mustache. [REDACTED] later learned that [REDACTED] had run the "slush fund" and TDY monies for the Golden Knights.

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During [REDACTED] who is a pilot, would fly to [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] plane. [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] joked about these strips, saying he was "flying shit" up to [REDACTED] suspected [REDACTED] of using cocaine, as [REDACTED] mood would change suddenly, but he never saw either [REDACTED] with any form of drugs. However, during the meet at GARDNER DROP ZONE, a local drug dealer, [REDACTED] (phonetic) sold [REDACTED] approximately \$45.00 worth of marijuana due to [REDACTED] association with [REDACTED] who at that point wanted to leave the military as fast as he could, had formulated a plan to use marijuana in order to receive a discharge from the military for failing a urinalysis test. While at the meet, [REDACTED] asked an individual known only to him as [REDACTED] (Last Name Unknown) where he could buy some drugs. [REDACTED] pointed to a trailer located at the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] wearing a USMA sweatsuit, asked [REDACTED] who owned the trailer, to sell him some drugs. [REDACTED] replied words to the effect of, "Yeah, I always have drugs for you guys at West Point" and, after sharing a marijuana cigarette between [REDACTED] himself and his girlfriend or

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 1/20/86, Page 9

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wife, [REDACTED] for the marijuana. At [REDACTED] suggestion, [REDACTED] made out the check for equipment. While in [REDACTED] trailer, [REDACTED] saw a plastic bag containing what he believed to be approximately four to six ounces of cocaine, a small portion of which [REDACTED] shaped into small lines and, with his wife, snorted. [REDACTED] had a .38 caliber revolver with him in the trailer.

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[REDACTED] from [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he was "into" cross breeding marijuana plants for higher potency and used to grow marijuana at the [REDACTED] near Walkill, New York, an old abandoned air strip, until the FBI had built their evasive driving school there, forcing [REDACTED] to move his marijuana plants closer to West Point. [REDACTED] may have been arrested by the FBI later for his drug dealing activity.

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After [REDACTED] left [REDACTED] trailer, he walked directly toward Captain [REDACTED] and exhaled marijuana smoke into [REDACTED] face. [REDACTED] noticed the smell of marijuana and probably reported [REDACTED] to CID, as [REDACTED] was later given a urinalysis exam, which he failed. [REDACTED] also ate part of the marijuana he had bought from [REDACTED] and discarded the rest. [REDACTED] had given an anonymous tip about himself to CID earlier, but no action was ever taken on it. [REDACTED] formulated his plan for failing the urinalysis exam by contacting a military lawyer at Fort Lee, Virginia. The lawyer told [REDACTED] that the easiest way to get out was through a drug investigation and detailed the process to [REDACTED]. Later, [REDACTED] talked to [REDACTED] (phonetic) an investigator at CID, USMA. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that marijuana stays in the body for several months and told [REDACTED] that one of the easiest places to purchase marijuana was at the LATIN AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB in West Point. [REDACTED] went to the LATIN AMERICAN SOCIAL CLUB, purchased marijuana from an individual there, used part of it and then made an anonymous phone call to CID saying that an individual driving a red car was using drugs.

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 10

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[REDACTED] did not turn himself into CID because as a self-admitted user, he would have been given amnesty and put into an alcohol and drug dependency program called ADCO, which makes it impossible for the military to dismiss an individual. The only way the military can discharge an individual is by catching that person in a drug investigation. [REDACTED] was determined to get out of the military due to the involvement with [REDACTED]

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and the fact that [REDACTED] had not guaranteed him a transfer back to [REDACTED] believed that [REDACTED] conspired with other individuals to have [REDACTED] jump and quarters pay cut so he could be broken financially, forcing him to work for [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had to quit her [REDACTED] business because of a possible conflict of interest over [REDACTED] posting to USMA, but [REDACTED] felt that [REDACTED] had reported her because he did not want competition, because [REDACTED] had been involved in buying new parachutes and equipment for the GARDNER DROP ZONE, which he turned over to [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] himself was never involved in any drug trafficking and never received any money for his activities, with the exception of \$100.00 that [REDACTED] gave him. After the West Point Invitational Meet, [REDACTED] pulled out a roll of \$100.00 bills and gave one to [REDACTED] telling [REDACTED] that he had been a great help on the weekend. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that he could not accept it, whereupon [REDACTED] said he would make it a loan. [REDACTED] knew that [REDACTED] wanted to buy a camper from another individual present and told [REDACTED] that he wanted [REDACTED] help on the weekends with packing chutes and and "other things" which he said he would talk about later. [REDACTED] accepted the \$100.00 which he paid to the individual selling the camper top who, in turn returned it to [REDACTED] telling [REDACTED] it was for the "toot you gave me." [REDACTED] laughed at this. Subsequently, [REDACTED] changed his mind about leaving the military and contacted Chaplain [REDACTED] and told him about the activities he had witnessed at USMA. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] he was pursuing it the wrong way and told him to contact CID. Thereafter, [REDACTED] contacted [REDACTED] of CID, USMA. [REDACTED] never contacted the

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 11

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FBI at Newburgh, New York, but was contacted by them in reference to the drug trafficking activity at GARDNER DROP ZONE. [REDACTED] was surprised by the activities at GARDNER DROP ZONE. While there, he witnessed many individuals openly carrying handguns and/or shoulder weapons, and once heard fully automatic weapons fire, which [REDACTED] believed to be from a MAC-10 submachine gun, coming from the woods surrounding GARDNER DROP ZONE. The BLUE SKY RANCH, [REDACTED] and GARDNER DROP ZONE lost three aircraft in 1985. After one plane crash, there was concern among the [REDACTED] and other individuals that the plane was "clean." The pilot of that plane, whom [REDACTED] knows as [REDACTED] constantly carries a shotgun in a case whenever he flies.

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After the CID investigation into [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] activities, [REDACTED] was told by a CID investigator that the supply diversion case against [REDACTED] was "a hundred percent," but that CID had been trying to get [REDACTED] for a long time. No trial date was set and in recent conversations with CID, [REDACTED] has been told that [REDACTED] is being investigated under an Article 32 investigation, which may not require witnesses or a trial. [REDACTED] has been suspended from his job but [REDACTED] is back at work. Subsequent investigation on [REDACTED] charges by CID confirmed that [REDACTED] charges about the parachute packing were true; however, [REDACTED] has not been charged. [REDACTED] is not in any trouble at all and still is in his position as [REDACTED] of the Parachute Detachment. [REDACTED] a cadet under [REDACTED] in 1975, has not been charged either. [REDACTED] believes that [REDACTED] is now at the J.F.K. Special Warfare School at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

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Shortly after [REDACTED] were interviewed by CID, [REDACTED] came to see [REDACTED] in what [REDACTED] thought to be a threatening manner. [REDACTED] attempted to grab [REDACTED] by the arm and warned him to stay away from him. When [REDACTED] attempted to leave, [REDACTED] blocked his way.

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[REDACTED] is still awaiting word on the investigation pertaining to his failure to pass the urinalysis test and has requested a hearing with general officers present.

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 12

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[REDACTED] fears that, despite [REDACTED] confession to CID about the supply diversion aspect, a coverup will be done on his charges about the "Company/Corporation" and narcotics activities among USMA personnel and cadets. A military lawyer involved in the investigation of [REDACTED] has talked to [REDACTED] about the embarrassment such charges would cause to the USMA.

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[REDACTED] after his interview with CID, complained that he had received threatening phone calls warning him to keep his mouth shut or his family would be in danger.

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[REDACTED] is willing to undergo a polygraph examination in connection with his above statements. [REDACTED] home residence, where his wife and stepchildren are currently residing, is [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] telephone number

[REDACTED] Social Security Account Number is

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[REDACTED] is described from interview and DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES information as follows:

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Name
Address

Race
Sec
Date of Birth
Social Security
Account Number
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 1/20/86 , Page 13

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Field office indices and National Crime Information
Center negative regarding [REDACTED]

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AIRTEL

DATE: 2/18/86

TO : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)
ATTN: LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, RESIDENT AGENCY

FROM : ACTING SAC, RICHMOND (12E-229) (RUC)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (deceased)
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LS

Re Richmond teletype to the Bureau dated 1/18/86.

Enclosed for Louisville are two copies of FD-302 and Agent's notes regarding interview of [REDACTED] on 1/20/86. Also enclosed for Louisville is the original cancelled check [REDACTED] on 1/20/86, which he used for the purchasing of marijuana from a West Point, New York, area, drug dealer, [REDACTED] (phonetic).

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Enclosed for the information of the Albany Division are two copies of aforementioned FD-302 of [REDACTED] as well as one copy of cancelled check used by [REDACTED] for purchase of marijuana from [REDACTED].

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On 1/20/86, [REDACTED] interviewed in depth at Richmond Office in the presence of Richmond Special Agents, [REDACTED] of the Washington Field Office. [REDACTED] reiterated information contained in referenced teletype, and provided further details on criminal activities of [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED].

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Although [REDACTED] criminal activities on the part of [REDACTED] his information concerning [REDACTED] involvement in the "company/corporation," a narcotics trafficking cartel, is based on

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②-Louisville (Encs. 4) ✓
2-Albany (Enc. 3)
2-Washington Field Office (Info)
1-Richmond
JPE/kdi
(7)

12-303-100

FEB 24 1986

FBI LOUISVILLE

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RH 12E-229

incidents surrounding captioned subject's death, statements by [redacted] and his own supposition; however, the possibility ~~exist~~ that there is a direct connection between [redacted] and THORNTON, through (FNU) [redacted] (phonetic).

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[redacted] may be attempting to use the Bureau to help himself, as he is presently [redacted]
[redacted]

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Washington Field Office will furnish original FD-302 to Louisville upon completion of review and initialing.

LEADS:

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Submit original FD-302, reinterview of [redacted]
[redacted] to Louisville upon completion of review and initialing.

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37
VZCZCHQ02068
PFR0

PP HQ LS NY

DE NK

P 240049Z FEB 86

FM NEWARK (149A-718) (RUC) (C-1)

TO LOUISVILLE (PRIORITY)

NEW YORK (PRIORITY)

BT

UNCLAS

UNSUBS; DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL N5510C, DAMV; NA
KOTICS;

OO: ATLANTA

RE: LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, OCTOBER 25, 1985, ENTITLED
"ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LOUIMILLE"
(LS 120-303)

FOR THE INFO OF LOUISVILLE, CONTACT WITH A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE
REVEALED THE FOLLOWING RE [REDACTED]

b6
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b7D

[REDACTED]

referred
2-25-86
bcw

[REDACTED]

pp

[REDACTED]

LOUISVILLE

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12-303-101

PAGE FOUR, NK 149A-718, UNCLAS

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b7D

THE FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT:

NAME:

SEX:

RACE:

38& 5:

WEIGHT:

HAIR:

SSAN:

FBI:

FLA-SID:

NY-SID:

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NEW YORK, AT WEST POINT, N.Y.: WILL CONTACT WEST POINT PARACHUTE CLUB AND REVIEW MANIFESTS DURING 1984-1985 TO VERIFY THE TRAINING RECEIVED BY THORNTON AND [REDACTED] RE SPECIALIZED FREE FALL TECHNIQUES.

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2. WILL REVIEW MANIFESTS TO DETERMINE THEIR ASSOCIATES.

NEW YORK, AT POUGHKEEPSIE, N.Y.: WILL REVIEW FILE OF DUTCHESS CO SO TO DETERMINE IF [REDACTED] HAS A CURRENT NEW YORK STATE PISTOL PERMIT TO CARRY.

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2. WILL DETERMINE AND CONTACT [REDACTED] PAROLE OFFICER AND REVIEW RXJORDS RE RESIDENCE, EMPLOYMEN AND WEAPONS. DETERMINE STATUS OF [REDACTED] PAROLE VIOLATION.

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ADDRESS NEW YORK, N.Y.: WILL DETERMIM

PAGE FIVE, NK 149A-718, UNCLAS

SOTO, 718-388-0160.

2. WILL REVIEW RECORDS OF NYPD SGR ANY INFO RE SOTO.

LEADS TO INTERVIEW [REDACTED] AND SOTO ARE LEFT TO THE
DISCRETION OF LOUISVILLE.

INASMUCH AS ALL LOGICAL INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN COMPLETED AT
NEWARK, THIS MATTER WILL BE CONSIDERED RUC.

BT

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 2/21/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738) (P) (SQ 6)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;

NARCOTICS - ITG;
 OO:LS

For the information of Louisville and the Lexington
 Resident Agency, on 2/18/86, (PROTECT IDENTITY),

informed Agents of the Atlanta Division
 of the following:

LOUISVILLE DIVISIONAT LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Attempt to locate [redacted] and determine the
 extent of his dealings with DAVID WILLIAMS and his knowledge of the
 location of possible drug assets secreted by WILLIAMS or ANDREW
 CARTER THORNTON.

2 - Louisville
 2 - Atlanta
 CJJ:djs
 (4)

1*

126-303-102

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 2 1986	
LOUISVILLE	

Approved: _____

Transmitted _____

(Number)

(Time)

Per _____

RH 12E-229

Continuation of FD-302 of

, On 1/20/86 , Page 14

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Date of Communication: 1/30/86

Type of Communication: FD-302

Orig/Dest: SA

Status: P

Synopsis: Interview of

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AIRTEL

DATE: 2/25/86

TO : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)
ATTN: LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, RESIDENT AGENCY

FROM *OK*: ACTING SAC, RICHMOND (12E-229) (C)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (deceased)
NARCOTICS MATTER
(OO: LS)

Re Richmond airtel Louisville dated 2/18/86 wherein lead set forth for the Washington Field Office to submit original FD-302 regarding interview of [redacted] to Louisville upon completion of review and initialing.

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b7C

Enclosed for Louisville are the original FD-302 and Agent's interview notes regarding interview of [redacted] [redacted], on January 20, 1986, at Richmond Office.

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Lead inadvertently set forth for the Washington Field Office to furnish original FD-302, described above, to Louisville upon completion of initialing; instead, Richmond is furnishing above-mentioned FD-302 to Louisville.

LEADS:

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

Disregard lead set forth in referenced Richmond airtel dated 2/18/86.

- ②-Louisville (Enc. 2) *l.c.*
1-Washington Field Office (Info)
1-Richmond
JPE/kdi
(4)

12D-303-104

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 03 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

[redacted] *[signature]*

b6
b7C

Memorandum



To : SAC, ATLANTA

Date 3/4/86

From : *TPO/gmm*
SAC, CINCINNATI (149A-365) (RUC)

Subject : ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II
NARCOTICS (D)
OO: LS
AT FILE 12D-738

UNSUBS;
DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
TAIL # N551CC,
DAMV
OO: AT
AT FILE 149A-703

Re CI airtel to AT, 2/11/86.

For the information of receiving offices, [redacted] will not be interviewed at this time and Cincinnati FBI does not anticipate interviewing him ever again. [redacted] is an inmate at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, Lucasville, Ohio, and apparently, according to above referenced airtel, he has recently been an inmate at Orient Correctional Institute, Orient, Ohio. [redacted] has been interviewed numerous times by the Cincinnati FBI Resident Agency at Portsmouth, Ohio. He has also been interviewed by Kentucky State Police, Cincinnati, Ohio Police Officers, Orange County, Florida Sheriff's Officers and he has made numerous telephone calls to various other officers throughout the United States from the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. In all cases, every time he has been interviewed and in all his letters he has the same few people who principally reside in [redacted] areas of [redacted] as being responsible for the majority of the crimes in the United States. These crimes range from arson to child kidnapping to the aiding and abetting of the escape of Top Ten Fugitives and hiding them in the hills surrounding [redacted]

b6
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- 4 - Atlanta (2 - 12D-738) (2 - 149A-703)
- 2 - Louisville
- 1 - Cincinnati

LKB/mlt
(7)

12-303-105

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>st</i>	FILED.....
MAR 12 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

[redacted]

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A [redacted] police officer named [redacted] [redacted] his mother, [redacted] or [redacted] and some others who are supposed to be related to the [redacted] are allegedly responsible for kidnapping young children from various places in the United States and Mexico, transporting them to the Cincinnati, Ohio area and selling them. [redacted] supposedly have also been involved in importing narcotics in large quantities through Cuba by use of shrimp boats and then getting the narcotics to other places in the United States by either land vehicle or airplanes.

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This same group is supposedly responsible for arsons and burglaries. [redacted] watches television and reads various newspapers while in the prison and whenever he sees something of interest, he apparently either fantasizes or constructs out of whole cloth information concerning the situations such as the kidnapping of ETAN PATZ from New York and some other children who have been kidnapped in Florida. He also wrote a letter to Orange County, Florida Sheriff's Office about a young boy who was badly injured a couple of years ago by a pipe bomb blast and who was brought to Cincinnati, Ohio, for treatment at the Shriner's Burns Hospital. He claimed he was told by the Orange County Deputy that the business card of one of these individuals was found on the street a very short distance from where the pipe bomb explosion took place on Christmas Eve. Contact with the investigating officer revealed no such business card was ever found and that [redacted] had no direct knowledge concerning the incident. Each time [redacted] has been interviewed, he has claimed to have received information about various crimes through the mail as a result of letters he has written to various police agencies and other people on the outside. Each time he has claimed to have received letters from someone involved in these crimes telling him about the crimes he has been asked to forward these to the Portsmouth, Ohio Resident Agency and to date none of them have been received. He tried to get the Portsmouth Agent to intercede with the prison administration to get him a single cell so that he could collect all these letters and mail them in one large envelope.

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Because it is a waste of time and [redacted] is only seeking attention, he will not be interviewed.

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VZCCHQ02036 0751710

PP LS

DE NY 0144 0700144

ZNY UUUUU

R 102437Z MAR 86

FM FBI NEW YORK (149A-4110) (P) (C-23)

TO FBI LOUISVILLE (12D-303) PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II; NARCOTICS MATTERS; OO: LOUISVILLE

REFERENCED, MARCH 7, 1986, TELEPHONE CALL FROM SA [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] NEW YORK DIVISION, TO SA [REDACTED] LOUISVILLE DIVISION,

AND NEWARK TELETYPE TO LOUISVILLE, ET AL, DATED FEBRUARY 23, 1986.

REFERENCED TELETYPE SET FORTH SEVERAL LEADS TO BE COVERED AT

NEW YORK INCLUDING INTERVIEWS AT WEST POINT PARACHUTE CLUB (WPPC)

REGARDING [REDACTED] NEW YORK HAS RECEIVED NO PRIOR

b6
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INFORMATION REGARDING CAPTIONED CASE OTHER THAN THE INFORMATION SET

FORTH IN REFERENCED TELETYPE. ① [REDACTED] ② [REDACTED]

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PER REFERENCED TELEPHONE CALL IT WAS LEARNED THAT LOUISVILLE
HAS OBTAINED INFORMATION THAT CERTAIN CURRENT EMPLOYEES OF THE WPCC
MAY HAVE ASSISTED [REDACTED] IN MURDERING CAPTIONED SUBJECT ANDREW
CARTER THORNTON.

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LEADS

LOUISVILLE

AT LEXINGTON RESIDENT AGENCY WILL EVALUATE LEADS SET FOR
NEW YORK BY NEWARK IN REFERENCED TELETYPE. IF LOUISVILLE DETERMINES
THAT LEAD TO CONDUCT INTERVIEWS AT WPCC SHOULD BE COVERED AT THIS
TIME LOUISVILLE IS REQUESTED TO FURNISH NEW YORK WITH ALL AVAILABLE
INFORMATION REGARDING POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT OF PRESENT OR FORMER
EMPLOYEES OF WPCC IN THE MURDER OF ANDREW CARTER THORNTON.
LOUISVILLE IS ALSO REQUESTED TO FURNISH NEW YORK WITH A BRIEF
SUMMARY OF THE FACTS OF CAPTIONED CASE INDIVIDUAL PROSECUTIVE
OPINION WITH RESPECT TO [REDACTED]

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BT

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

More cocaine found, linked to Thornton

Associated Press

JACKSON, Ga. — Three duffel bags containing about 250 pounds of cocaine — \$32 million worth — were found yesterday in a woods on a Butts County farm.

The duffel bags match those carried by former Lexington, Ky., police officer Andrew C. Thornton II when he parachuted to his death in Tennessee, and eight other duffel bags of cocaine found scattered across north Georgia in recent months, said Charles McMichen, assistant agent in charge of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Atlanta regional drug office.

The cocaine found in Georgia is believed to have been dropped by Thornton before he died.

Yesterday's discovery brings the total found to 760 pounds.

"It appeared that it had been in the woods for a while," McMichen said. "It was on the ground. It had been there long enough that the leaves had covered half of the parachute."

Thornton died in September when he parachuted from an airplane over Knoxville, Tenn. His body had 77 pounds of cocaine strapped to it when he was found on a Knoxville driveway.

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

THE COURIER-JOURNAL
LOUISVILLE, KY., PAGE A-5

1/16/86

Date: 1/16/86
Edition: MORNING

Title: MORE ■ COCAINE FOUND,
LINKED TO THORNTON

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: LS

Indexing:

CC... MAY 7 1986

12-303-107

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 7 1986	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	
Desk 2	

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

OUTBOX.1 (#192)

TEXT:

LS00001 1491914

PP HQ

DE LS

P 291914Z MAY 86

FM LOUISVILLE (12D-303)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (DECEASED); NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LS

PURPOSE: THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO GRANT THE USE OF A NAGRA
AND TRANSMITTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF NON TELEPHONE CONSENSUAL MONITORING
IN ABOVE CAPTIONED MATTER. THE PERSONS EXPECTED TO BE OVERHEARD ARE
A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE, [REDACTED] AND POSSIBLY OTHERS YET UNIDENTIFIED.

DETAILS: A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WAS [REDACTED]

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b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

12D-303-109
Searched _____
Serialized 11
Indexed _____
Filed 11

PAGE TWO DE LS 0001 UNCLAS E F T O

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PLANS ARE TO LOCATE [REDACTED] SUPPLIER AND

EXECUTE A SEARCH WARRANT TO RECOVER THE BULK OF THE COCAINE.

CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WILL SIGN THE NECESSARY FORMS AND WILL TESTIFY IF NEEDED. APPROPRIATE SECURITY WILL BE AFFORDED BUREAU EQUIPMENT AND CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WILL BE INSTRUCTED TO ONLY ACTIVATE EQUIPMENT IN HIS PRESENCE.

USA OPINION: AUSA [REDACTED] EDKY, WAS ADVISED OF THE FACTS IN THIS MATTER AND CONCURRED WITH THE USE OF THE TECHNIQUES TO BE INSTITUTED. AUSA [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT ENTRAPMENT WAS NOT AN ISSUE.

ADMINISTRATIVE: THE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE MENTIONED IN ABOVE MATTER IS IDENTICAL TO [REDACTED]

BT

0001

NNNN

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b6
b7C

b7D

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 5/29/86

[redacted] Special Agents (SAs) [redacted]
[redacted] weighed and measured a small, clear plastic bag secured
by a rubber band which contains a white powdery substance. [redacted]
[redacted]

b6
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b7E

The package was weighed on a Dial-O-Gram balance which showed
a weight of approximately .9 grams. The package was determined
to be approximately 2-3/4 inches in length.

The package was photographed by SA [redacted] utilizing
a Canon F-1 camera with 400 ASA film.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 5/28/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303-110
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] KDJ:gbi Date dictated 5/28/86

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 5/29/86

On [redacted] a physical surveillance (FISUR) was conducted by Special Agents (SAs) [redacted] of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) and Detective [redacted] of the KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP). The surveillance was conducted in [redacted] and was initiated at the residence of [redacted]. The surveillance was conducted after a confidential source [redacted] had previously told the source that he would [redacted] for the source. During this surveillance, the following surveillance was maintained:

TIME

[Large redacted area]

Investigation on [redacted] at [redacted] File # LS 12D-303 -111
SA [redacted] SA [redacted]
SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] Date dictated 5/28/86
by KDJ:gbi

LS 12D-303

Continuation of FD-302 of FISUR, On , Page 2

b7D

TIMEb6
b7C
b7D

Prior to losing contact with subject's vehicle, it was observed turning left on off of traveling towards . Subject's vehicle was not observed back at his residence until after the source had left the area.

b7D

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

Date 5/29/86

From : SA [redacted]

b6
b7C

Subject : ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III,
(Deceased);
NARCOTICS MATTER;
OO: LS

Telcalls of SA [redacted] to Supervisor [redacted]

b6
b7C

On 5/26/86, [redacted] contacted SA [redacted] and
advised that source was in a position to [redacted]

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b7C
b7D

Agents of the London RA attempted to surveil [redacted]
vehicle from his residence to his supplier's location, however,
contact with [redacted] was lost before he reached his destination.
[redacted] returned to his residence approximately one and one-half
hour later and [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

On [redacted] source contacted SA [redacted] and stated
that on the evening of [redacted] he had a conversation with [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

② - 12D-303
KDJ:gbi
(2) *gbi*

12D-303-112

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 29 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

Info → [redacted]

b6
b7C

LS 12D-303

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

It is anticipated that source [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] when [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] to go to his supplier's location, surveillance will
again be initiated in an attempt to follow him to his supplier's.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 6/9/86

On June 5, 1986, Special Agent (SA) [] of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) transported a plastic pill bottle containing a white powder to the KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory, located in London, Kentucky.

b6
b7C

At 1:30 p.m., SA [] provided [] of the Crime Lab with the bottle containing the powder to be analyzed by [].

b6
b7C

Prior to providing the bottle to [] SA [] filled out a KSP Form 26 which was provided to []. A copy of the KSP Form 26 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 6/5/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 -113
by SA [] *ADJ* *81* Date dictated 6/6/86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
CRIME LABORATORY

Request for Examination

Rec: 6-5-86

1:30 PM

Lab vin

Case No. LS 120-303

Laboratory No. 86-5-625

TO: Crime Laboratory

FROM: SA

DEPARTMENT: FBI

OFFENSE: Distribution of cocaine

DATE: 6-4-86

COUNTY Whitley

VICTIM:

SUSPECT OR ACCUSED:

INVESTIGATING OFFICER:

DEPARTMENT:

EXHIBITS:

b6
b7C

b7D

CASE HISTORY:

b7D

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Identify any controlled substances (cocaine)

6-5-86

Date

Reviewed by

b6
b7C

Attach additional pages if needed.

AIRTEL

To: Director, FBI
(Attn: Photographic Processing Unit, Rm. 1B903)

Date: 6/6/86

From: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

Subject: **ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III**
(Deceased);
NARCOTICS MATTER;
OO: LS

FBIHQ USE ONLY

	Initials	Date
Received		
Developed		
Printed		
Enlargements		
Slides		
Copied		
Other		

1. ENCLOSED PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK RELATES TO:

☒ Current Investigation ☐ Mug Shot ☐ Other

2. ENCLOSURE(S)

Film To Be Processed

Size	Color	B&W	Quantity
4x5			
135	X	X	3
126			
120			
Slides			

Movie Film or Microfilm

Size	Color	B&W	Quantity
16mm			
35mm			
8(super)			
70mm AHU			

Negatives To Be Printed

Size	Color	B&W	Quantity
8x10			
4x5			
135			
120			
126			
220			
110			

Other

Item	Quantity

3. WORK REQUESTED

Processing

- ☐ Process only
☐ Process & make print
☐ Process & make contact prints
☐ Slides to be processed
☐ Slides to be duplicated
☐ _____
☐ _____

Prints To Be Made

- (From 135, 126, and 110)
☒ 3 1/2x5 ☐ 5x7
 _____ # prints from each frame
☐ Color ☐ B&W
 (From 120 and 4x5)
☐ 4x5 ☐ 8x10
 _____ # prints from each frame
☐ Color ☐ B&W

Prints To Be Made

- (Prints from slides)
☐ 3 1/2x5
☐ 5x7
☐ 8x10

Custom Prints

- (From any size negative or slide)
 Quantity _____
 Size _____
☐ Color ☐ B&W

4. REMARKS

(include trial date or other
mandatory deadline and any
other specific instructions)

- Roll #1 3 copies of each frame
11 exposures taken
 Roll #2 1 copy of each frame
approximately 5 exposures taken
 Roll #3 1 copy of each frame
approximately 4 exposures taken

12-303-114

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 6/4/86

On June 2, 1986, Special Agent (SA) [redacted] of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) transported a small plastic bag containing a white powdery substance to the KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory located in London, Kentucky.

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b7C

At 11:20 a.m., SA [redacted] provided [redacted] of the Crime Lab with the bag containing the powder to be analyzed by [redacted].

b6
b7C

Prior to providing the bag to [redacted] SA [redacted] filled out a KSP Form 26 which was provided to [redacted]. A copy of the KSP Form 26 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 6/2/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 - 115
by SA [redacted] FBI Date dictated 6/3/86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
CRIME LABORATORY

Request for Examination

Rec: 6-2-86

11:20 AM

Lab via

agent

Case No. LS 120303

Laboratory No. 86-5-613

TO: Crime Laboratory

FROM: SA [redacted]

DEPARTMENT: FBI

b6
b7C

OFFENSE: Distribution of Narcotics

DATE: 5-27-86

COUNTY: Wurtley

VICTIM:

SUSPECT OR ACCUSED:

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: SA [redacted]

DEPARTMENT: FBI

EXHIBITS:

b6
b7C

b7D

CASE HISTORY:

b7D

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Identification of any controlled substances Cocaine

6-2-86

Date

Reviewed by

SA, FBI
request

b6
b7C

Attach additional pages if needed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 6/9/86

Special Agents (SAs) [redacted]
[redacted] measured a plastic medicine bottle which was approximately half full of a white powder. The contents of the bottle were then weighed on a Dial-O-Gram balance which showed a weight of approximately 4.5 grams. The bottle was determined to be approximately 2-3/4 inches in length.

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The medicine bottle was photographed by SA [redacted]
utilizing a Canon F-1 camera with 125 ASA film.

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Investigation on 6/5/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 -116
by SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] KDJ:gbi Date dictated 6/6/86

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 6/9/86

On June 4, 1986, Special Agent (SA) [redacted]
[redacted] made photocopies of one hundred dollar bills with the
following serial numbers: D01843068A. D01843069A. H02526343A;
H02452575A; and H02452574A. [redacted]
[redacted]

b6
b7C
b7E

Investigation on 6/4/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 -117
by SA [redacted] FBI Date dictated 6/6/86

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 6/9/86

On June 5, 1986, [] KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory, State Office Building, London, Kentucky, provided the following information to Special Agent (SA) []

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[] advised SA [] that the exhibit consisting of a small plastic packet secured by a rubber band which had been provided to [] on June 2, 1986, had been analyzed by [] and was found to contain cocaine. [] stated that he had not done a detailed analysis on the percentage of the cocaine, however, his test had determined that the substance was a least 80 percent cocaine.

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[] stated that the weight of the contents of the packet at the time he received it was approximately 345 milligrams. [] returned the packet containing the powder which had not been used in his analysis to SA []. Prior to receiving the packet, SA [] signed a KSP-318 (Record of Evidence Release), and the evidence was provided to SA [] at 1:36 p.m., on June 5, 1986. [] also provided SA [] with a KSP form 35 (Report of Crime Laboratory Examination).

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Copies of the KSP Form 35 and KSP Form 318 are attached hereto.

Investigation on 6/5/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 - 118
by SA [] gbi Date dictated 6/6/86

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Central Laboratory - Frankfort

Regional Laboratories
Region 1 - Madisonville
Region 2 - Louisville
Region 3 - Highland Heights
Region 4 - Ashland
Region 5 - London



Laboratory No. 86-5-613

Case No. LS12D303

Re: No suspect listed

REPORT OF CRIME LABORATORY EXAMINATION

SUBMITTED BY: S. A. [redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation

b6
b7C

RECEIVED: DATE 6-2-86 TIME 11:20 a.m. VIA Agent [redacted]

RETURNED TO: Held for release DATE VIA

MATERIAL SUBMITTED:

Exhibit 1: A small plastic packet containing approximately 345 milligrams of white powder.

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

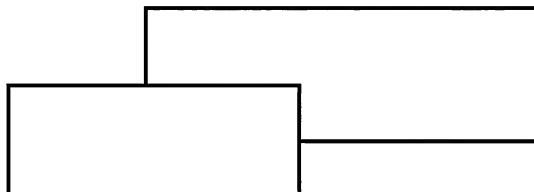
Identification of controlled substances.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Exhibit 1 was found to contain cocaine. Refer to Schedule II.

Date completed: 6-2-86

mkb



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b7C

KSP 35
10 - 79

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
FORENSIC LABORATORIES SECTION

RECORD OF EVIDENCE RELEASE

Investigating Officer: S. A. [redacted] Lab No: 86-5-613 b6
Department: Federal Bureau of Investigation Case No: LS12D303 b7C
Delivered by: Agent [redacted] Date: [redacted]
Examiner: [redacted] Released by: [redacted]
Re: Victim/Suspect: No suspect listed

This is to certify that the undersigned has received the evidence in the above case [redacted] b6
Receiving Officer: [redacted] SA b7C
Department: FBI
Date: 6-5-86 Time: 136 P

REMARKS:

Fro description of evidence see KSP 35.

LS 12D-303

KDJ:gbi

1

ADMINISTRATIVE

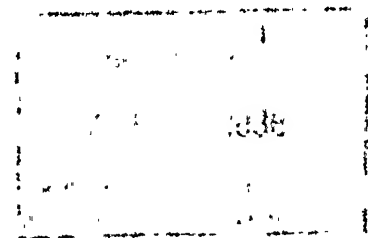
On May 26, 1986, [redacted] provided the following
information to Special Agent (SA) [redacted]

Source advised that [redacted]

[Large redacted area]

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b7D

9



LS 12D-303

KDJ:gbi

1

On June 5, 1986, [redacted]

[redacted] (KSP) Detectives
[redacted] Post 11, London, Kentucky,
provided the following information to Special Agent (SA) [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted] who had been observed at the FIRST STOP
LEQUOR STORE in Jellico, Tennessee, used to be the [redacted] of
the [redacted] store in [redacted] was fired after
allegedly [redacted] is the former
[redacted] owns the [redacted]
[redacted] hangs out at the AM VETS CLUB in Jellico,
and apparently is [redacted] as well. [redacted] reportedly
has property in [redacted] and has been spending time down there
as well.

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[redacted] are known to associate with [redacted]
[redacted] a [redacted] in [redacted] and they
also associate with [redacted] (phonetic), a [redacted]
in [redacted] do not believe that [redacted] is in
involved in any narcotics activity, however.

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[redacted] stated that the occupant of a Chevrolet
Suburban which was seen at the liquor store at the time [redacted]
was there was [redacted]

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b7C

[redacted] reportedly lives
in [redacted] and both he and [redacted] are suspected of being
involved in narcotics activity. [redacted] also stated that
[redacted] may be associates of [redacted]. Both the
[redacted] are involved in narcotics activity and reportedly were
convicted in the past in federal court.

12-303-120

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE

Date 5/28/86

From : SA [REDACTED]

Subject : [REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

Dates of Contact [REDACTED]										
File #s on which contacted (Use Titles if File #s not available) LS 12D-303										
Purpose and results of contact										
<input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC										
Description of Statistical Accomplishment	Title of Case	File No.								
<p>Information herein obtained confidentially; informant's name is not to be disclosed in report or otherwise unless it has been decided definitely that he is to be a witness in a trial or hearing.</p>										
<div style="text-align: right;"> <p>12-303-121</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>SEARCHED</td> <td>INDEXED</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SERIALIZED</td> <td>FILED</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">MAY 28 1986</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">FBI - LOUISVILLE</td> </tr> </table> </div>			SEARCHED	INDEXED	SERIALIZED	FILED	MAY 28 1986		FBI - LOUISVILLE	
SEARCHED	INDEXED									
SERIALIZED	FILED									
MAY 28 1986										
FBI - LOUISVILLE										
PERSONAL DATA										

b7D

① - 12D-303

see reverse side for statistics

KDJ:gbi *gbi*
0

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 5/28/86

Confidential source provided the following information
to Special Agents (SAs) [redacted]
[redacted] as follows.

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Source advised that at approximately [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7DPrior to the interview, source provided SA [redacted]
[redacted]b6
b7C
b7D

Investigation on [redacted]

at [redacted]

File # LS 12D-303

b7D

SA [redacted]
SA [redacted]

and

KDJ:gbi

5/27/86

b6
b7C

by

Date dictated

RECORD OF INFORMATION FURNISHED OTHER AGENCIES

Orally 5-27-86 By Telephone _____ Written Communication _____
date date dateInformation concerning: Drug activity - Corbin, KY

Information furnished from File, Serial, and Page Number:

LS 120-303

Information furnished was obtained:

☐ during course of Bureau investigation☒ from informants☐ from complainants or other sources

Information furnished to:

Det
PolizeKentucky State ^{b6}_{b7C}

Number of items disseminated: _____

Remarks:

KSP is working with FBI on this matter.

1-

① 120-3031- 66-1826A

Special Agent

12-303-122

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <u>ca</u>	FILED <u>ca</u>
JUN 11 1986	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

b7D

b6
b7C

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel _____

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 6/4/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)
 FROM: SAC, KNOXVILLE (12D-377) (RUC)
 ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
 NARCOTICS MATTER
 OO: LS

Re Louisville teletype to Atlanta, Charlotte, Knoxville, Miami, Newark, 10/25/85, captioned as above.

For information of Louisville FBI, Knoxville previously supported initial DEA/FBI investigation in captioned case. Since that time, DEA has sought indictments of co-conspirators and anticipates these indictments will be returned in the near future.

Based on the above, Knoxville is placing this matter in RUC status. No further FBI investigation remains in the Knoxville Division unless requested by Louisville.

② - Louisville
 1 - Knoxville

JED/byw
 (3)

1*

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____
 (Number)

12-303-123

SEARCHED	Per	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED	
JUN 10 1986		
FILE		

b6
 b7C

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.1 (#450)

TEXT:
VZCZCH00034

RR LS

DE HQ #1034 1622227

ZNY EEEEE

R 091521Z JUN 86

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI LOUISVILLE (12D-303) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (DECEASED); NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LS.

RELSTEL TO FBIHQ, DATED NOVEMBER 14, 1985, MAY 29, 1986,
AND ALL SACS AIRTEL, MAY 7, 1986 CAPTIONED "FBI NATIONAL DRUG
STRATEGY (NDS)."

BASED UPON A REVIEW OF INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFERENCED
COMMUNICATIONS, CAPTIONED MATTER DOES NOT MEET THE CRITERIA SET
FORTH UNDER THE NDS FOR CONDUCTING FBI NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS.

LOUISVILLE DIVISION IS DIRECTED TO BRING CAPTIONED MATTER
TO A LOGICAL CONCLUSION OR PROVIDE FBIHQ WITH SUFFICIENT
JUSTIFICATION FOR CONTINUING THE INVESTIGATION UNDER THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE NDS.

BT

#1034

(1)



12-303-124
cc
BIL Submit
Closing communications
ASAP !

NNNN

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE: 6/10/86

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)

FROM: ~~ADIC~~ ADIC, NEW YORK (149A-4110) (RUC) (C-23)

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II;
NARCOTICS MATTERS;
(OO:LOUISVILLE)

Reference New York teletype to Louisville, dated 3/10/86
and Newark teletype to Louisville, et al, dated 2/23/86.

Referenced New York teletype, dated 3/10/86 requested
that Louisville evaluate, for relevancy, leads set for New York by
Newark teletype, dated 2/23/86 and that Louisville furnish New
York with certain pertinent documents and background information
regarding captioned matter.

Since Louisville has not responded to this request, it
is presumed that no investigation is requested of New York. Ac-
cordingly, this matter is considered RUC.

2 - Louisville
1 - New York
TC:ctv
(4)

12-303-125

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1986	
<div></div>	

b6
b7c

LS 12D-303

MVB:pjc

1

ADMINISTRATIVE

On April 1, 1986, source, [REDACTED] was telephonically
contacted and advised that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7C
b7D

②

LS 183B-787

LS 183B-642

LS 12D-303

MVB:pjc

1

ADMINISTRATIVE

On February 26, 1986, [REDACTED] was interviewed at the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] by Special Agents [REDACTED]

b6
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b7D

Source is willing to provide further information on
narcotics activities in Lexington, Kentucky. [REDACTED]

b7D

LS 12D-303

KDJ:gbi

1

ADMINISTRATIVE

On June 2, 1986, [redacted] provided the following
information to Special Agents (SAs) [redacted]
[redacted]

Source advised that on [redacted]
[redacted]

b6
b7C
b7D

b6
b7C
b7D

0

LS 12D-303

KDJ:gbi

1

ADMINISTRATIVE

[redacted] provided the following information
to Special Agent (SA) [redacted] on May 28, 1986.

b6
b7C
b7D

Source advised that [redacted]

[Large redacted area]

b6
b7C
b7D

0

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE

Date 6/9/86

From : SA. [REDACTED]

Subject : [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

b7D

Date of Contact [REDACTED]		
File #s on which contacted (Use Titles if File #s not available) LS 12D-303		
Purpose and results of contact <input type="checkbox"/> NEGATIVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POSITIVE <input type="checkbox"/> STATISTIC		
Description of Statistical Accomplishment	Title of Case	File No.
Purchase of approximately 5 grams of cocaine valued at about \$650.00	ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III, (Deceased); NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LS	12D-303
<p>Information herein obtained confidentially; informant's name is not to be disclosed in report or otherwise unless it has been decided definitely that he is to be a witness in a trial or hearing.</p>		
<div style="text-align: right;"> <p>12-303-130</p> <p>SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED JUN 9 1986 FBI - LOUISVILLE</p> </div>		
PERSONAL DATA		

b7D

b6
b7C

① - 12D-303

see reverse side for statistics

KDJ:gbi:du

STATISTICAL ACCOMPLISHMENT

1. Number of Subjects Arrested:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
2. Number of Subjects Identified and/or Located:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
3. Number of Investigative Matters Initiated:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
4. Number of Items of Informant Information Disseminated: _____
5. Number of Violent Acts Prevented: _____
6. Number of Times Informant Information Used
In Search Warrant Affidavits:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
7. Number of Times Informant Information Used
in Title III Affidavits:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
8. Number of Times Informant Information Used
in Obtaining Complaint/Information:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
9. Merchandise Recovered (value):
 - a) FBI \$650.00
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
10. Potential Economic Loss Prevented:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
11. Number of Convictions Obtained as a Result of
Information Furnished by Informants or as a Result
of Other Significant Operational Assistance
Furnished:
 - a) FBI _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies _____
12. Number of Times Undercover Agent or Other Law
Enforcement Officer Introduced into an
Investigative Matter by Informants:
 - a) FBI Cases _____
 - b) Other Federal Agencies Cases (specify) _____
 - c) State and Local Agencies Cases (specify) _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date of transcription 6/9/86

Confidential Source provided the following information
to Special Agents (SAs)
as follows.

b6
b7Cb6
b7C
b7D

Investigation on at File # LS 12D-303
by SA and KDJ:gbi Date dictated 6/6/86

b7D

b6
b7C

ROUTE TO PHOTO TECHNICIAN UPON RECEIPT

From: Director, FBI
(Attn: Photographic Processing Unit, Rm. 1B903 TL151)

AIRTEL

To: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

Cost Code:

JUN 27 1986

Date: 6/17/86

Subject: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III
(Deceased);
NARCOTICS MATTER;
CO: LS

☒ Unclassified ☐ Confidential ☐ Secret

004884

ENCLOSURES:

	Size	Type	Quantity
Film	135	35	1
Negatives			
Prints			
Other (specify)			

(color and black & white work will not be
accepted on same request)

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

FTS-

WORK REQUESTED:

☒ Develop and print 1 ea. 3½ x 5

Other:

Roll #2 1 copy of each frame,
approximately 5 exposures taken

JUSTIFICATION:

photos taken of evidence in above investigation

12-303-131

PHOTO TECHNICIAN (Int.) 

The above is ☐ attached
☐ being sent under separate cover, via ☐ registered mail
☐ air freight

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 30 1986	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

Enclosure (5)

ROUTE TO PHOTO TECHNICIAN RECEIPT

From: Director, FBI
(Attn: Photographic Processing Unit, Rm. 1B903 TL151)

AIRTEL

To: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

Cost Code: ~~JUN~~ 30 1985

Date: 6/17/86

Subject: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III
(Deceased);
NARCOTICS MATTER;
OO: IS

☒ Unclassified ☐ Confidential ☐ Secret

004900

ENCLOSURES:

CONTACT FOR INFORMATION:

FTS-

	Size	Type	Quantity
Film			
Negatives			
Prints	135	Color	2
Other (specify)			

(color and black & white work will not be
accepted on same request)

WORK REQUESTED:

☒ Develop and print 1 ea. 3½ x 5
Other:

Roll #1 3 copies of each frame
11 exposures taken

Roll #3 1 copy of each frame
approximately 4 exposures taken

JUSTIFICATION:

photos taken of evidence in above investigation

PHOTO TECHNICIAN (Intl.) 

The above is ☒ attached
☐ being sent under separate cover, via ☐ registered mail
☐ air freight

Enclosure (32)

12-303-132

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (C)

Date 7/7/86

From : SA

b6
b7C

Subject : ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LS

All investigation has been completed and no further leads are outstanding. Any further investigation will be pursued by DEA, Knoxville, TN.

Therefore, nothing further remains, and this matter should be closed.

① - 12D-303
WWW:pjc
(1) *[Signature]*

I certify all indexing
has been done.

Date _____ Initials _____

1*

[Signature]
~~close~~ (4)

12-303-133

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>cd</i>	FILED <i>cd</i>
JUL 7 1986	
[Redacted Box]	
ILLE <i>[Signature]</i>	

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 7/25/86

On July 18, 1986, [] KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory, State Office Building, London, Kentucky, provided the following information to Special Agent (SA) []

b6
b7C

[] advised SA [] that the exhibit consisting of a brown plastic prescription vial which had been provided to [] on June 5, 1986, had been analyzed by [] and was found to contain cocaine. [] stated that at this time he had not done a further detailed analysis to determine the percentage of the cocaine.

b6
b7C

[] stated that the weight of the contents of the vial at the time he received it was approximately 4.45 grams. [] returned the vial containing the powder which had not been used in his analysis to SA []. Prior to receiving the packet, SA [] signed a KSP-318 (Record of Evidence Release), and the evidence was provided to SA [] at 9:45 a.m., on July 18, 1986. [] also provided SA [] with a KSP Form 35 (Report of Crime Laboratory Examination).

b6
b7C

Copies of the KSP Form 35 and KSP Form 318 are attached hereto.

Investigation on 7/18/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 - 134
by SA [] gbi Date dictated 7/24/86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
FORENSIC LABORATORIES SECTION

RECORD OF EVIDENCE RELEASE

Investigating Officer: S. A. [redacted] Lab No: 86-5-625 b6
Department: Federal Bureau of Investigation Case No: LS120-303 b7C
Delivered by: S. A. [redacted] Date: [redacted]
Examiner: [redacted] Released by: [redacted]
Re: Victim/Suspect: No suspect listed [redacted]

This is to certify that the undersigned has received the evidence [redacted]

Receiving Officer: [redacted]

Department: FBI

Date: 7-18-86 Time: 945A

REMARKS:

For description of evidence see KSP 35.

Central Laboratory - Frankfort

Regional Laboratories
Region 1 - Madisonville
Region 2 - Louisville
Region 3 - Highland Heights
Region 4 - Ashland
Region 5 - London



Laboratory No. 86-5-625

Case No. LS120-303

Re: No suspect listed

REPORT OF CRIME LABORATORY EXAMINATION

SUBMITTED BY: S. A. [redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation

b6
b7C

RECEIVED: DATE 6-5-86 TIME 1:30 p.m. VIA S. A. [redacted]

RETURNED TO: Held for release DATE VIA

MATERIAL SUBMITTED:

Exhibit 1: A brown plastic prescription vial containing approximately 4.45 grams of white powder.

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Identification of controlled substances.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Exhibit 1 was found to contain cocaine. (Refer to Schedule II).

Date completed: 6-11-86

mkb

Sig

KSP 35
10 - 79

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 7/25/86

On July 18, 1986, Special Agent (SA) [redacted] of the FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) transported a plastic pill bottle containing a white powder to the KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory, located in London, Kentucky.

b6
b7C

At 9:35 a.m., SA [redacted] provided [redacted] of the Crime Lab with the bottle containing the powder to be analyzed by [redacted]

b6
b7C

Prior to providing the bottle to [redacted] SA [redacted] filled out a KSP Form 26 which was provided to [redacted]. A copy of the KSP Form 26 is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 7/18/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 - 135
by SA [redacted] gbi Date dictated 7/24/86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
CRIME LABORATORY

Request for Examination

Rec: 7-18-86

Case No. LS120-303

9:35 AM

Laboratory No. 86-5-793

TO: Crime Laboratory

FROM: SA

DEPARTMENT: FBI

OFFENSE: Distribution of cocaine

DATE: 7-17-86

COUNTY Knox

VICTIM:

SUSPECT OR ACCUSED:

INVESTIGATING OFFICER:

DEPARTMENT: FBI

EXHIBITS:

Plastic bottle containing white powder

CASE HISTORY:

Buy through confidential informant

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

IDCS

7-18-86

Date

Reviewed by

Request

Attach additional pages if needed.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 7/25/86

[redacted] (Protect Identity) provided the following information to the interviewing agents in front of the [redacted]

b6
b7C
b7Db6
b7C
b7D

Investigation on

SA

SA

by

at

and

KDJ:gbi

File #

LS 12D-303 - 136

Date dictated 7/24/86

b7D

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 8/4/86

Special Agent (SA) [redacted] weighed a brown plastic vial, which was approximately one-third full of a white powder. The contents of the bottle were weighed on a Dial-O-Gram balance which showed a weight of approximately 3.3 grams.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 7/18/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 **138**
by SA [redacted] gbi Date dictated 8/4/86

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date of transcription 9/10/86

On September 9, 1986, [] KENTUCKY STATE POLICE (KSP) Crime Laboratory, State Office Building, London, Kentucky, returned a plastic bottle containing a white powder to Special Agent (SA) []. The bottle had been previously provided to [] for analysis. [] advised that his analysis had determined that the powder contained in the plastic bottle was in fact cocaine.

b6
b7C

Prior to receiving the evidence, SA [] signed a KSP-318 (Record of Evidence Release) and the evidence was provided to SA [] at 2:21 p.m., on September 9, 1986. [] had previously provided SA [] with a KSP 35 (Report of Crime Laboratory Examination). A copy of the KSP Form 35 and Form 318 are attached.

b6
b7C

Investigation on 9/9/86 at London, Kentucky File # LS 12D-303 -139
by SA [] *MD* gbi Date dictated 9/9/86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
SOUTHEASTERN REGIONAL LABORATORY
P. O. BOX 870
LONDON, KENTUCKY 40741
(606) 878-0610 EXT. 321

Laboratory No. 86-5-0793

Case No. LS12D-303

Re:

b6
b7C

REPORT OF CRIME LABORATORY EXAMINATION

SUBMITTED BY: Agent FBI

b6
b7C

RECEIVED: DATE 07-18-86 TIME 9:35 a.m. VIA

RETURNED TO: Held for release DATE VIA

MATERIAL SUBMITTED:

Exhibit 1: A brown plastic vial containing approximately 3.25 grams
of white powder.

EXAMINATION REQUESTED:

Identification of controlled substances.

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION:

Exhibit 1: Found to contain cocaine. Refer to Schedule II.

Date Completed: 07-28-86
mkb

Sign

RSP JJ 7-86

b6
b7C

KENTUCKY STATE POLICE
FORENSIC LABORATORIES SECTION

RECORD OF EVIDENCE RELEASE

Investigating Officer: Agent [REDACTED]

Lab No: 86-5-0793

b6
b7C

Department: FBI

Case No.: LS12D-303

Delivered by: [REDACTED]

Date: 07-18-86

Examiner: [REDACTED]

Released by: [REDACTED]

Re: Victim/Suspect: [REDACTED]

This is to certify that the undersigned has received

case.

b6
b7C

Receiving Officer: [REDACTED]

Department: FBI

Date: 9-9-86

Time: 221P

REMARKS:

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.1 (#469)

TEXT:

NK0002 2931945

RR AT CE KX LS

DE NK

R 201945Z OCT 86

FM NEWARK (149A-718) (C) (C-1)

TO ATLANTA (12G-738) (ROUTINE)

CHARLOTTE (12G-533) (ROUTINE)

KNOXVILLE (12G-377) (ROUTINE)

LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

UNSUBS; DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC, DAMV;

NARCOTICS; OCTOBER 10, 1985; OO: ATLANTA

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LOUISVILLE

(LS 12D-303)

RE: NEWARK TELETYPE TO LOUISVILLE, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 1986.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF RECEIVING OFFICES, REFERENCED TELETYPE

PROVIDED BACKGROUND ON [REDACTED] A SUSPECT IN CAPTIONED

MATTERS. [REDACTED] REPORTEDLY RECRUITED INDIVIDUALS FOR

THORNTON'S ORGANIZATION WHILE ASSIGNED TO SPECIAL FORCES UNITS AT

b6
b7c

12-303-140

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 20 1986	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

b6
b7c

PAGE TWO, NK 149A-718, UNCLAS

FORT BRAGG, NC. PRIOR REVIEW OF [REDACTED] FBI RECORD

b6
b7C

REVEALS AN ARREST AND CONVICTION FOR ILLEGAL WEAPONS AND ROBBERY
IN FLORIDA ON [REDACTED] IN FEBRUARY, 1986, INFORMATION WAS
DEVELOPED THAT [REDACTED] HAD [REDACTED] AS A

[REDACTED] TO ATTEND THE [REDACTED]
COURSE. THIS COURSE REQUIRES A TOP SECRET CLEARANCE AND INVOLVES
SENSITIVE MATTERS. NEWARK UNDERSTANDS THAT A FELONY CONVICTION
USUALLY PRECLUDES AN INDIVIDUAL FROM A SENSITIVE CLEARANCE.

ON OCTOBER 14, 1986, INFORMATION WAS RECEIVED FROM A
RELIABLE CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE WHO ADVISED THAT [REDACTED]

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b7C
b7D

12-303-140
ccw ccw
*

PAGE THREE, NK 149A-718, UNCLAS

THE FOLLOWING IS A DESCRIPTION OF THE SUBJECT:

[REDACTED] SEX: [REDACTED] RACE: [REDACTED]
HEIGHT: [REDACTED] WEIGHT: [REDACTED] POUNDS; HAIR: [REDACTED] SSAN: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] FBI NUMBER: [REDACTED] FLA-SID: [REDACTED]
NY-SID: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT INQUIRY OF THE FBI
IDENTIFICATION DIVISION REVEALED THAT THE RECORD OF [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] FBI NUMBER [REDACTED]

FURTHER INVESTIGATION OR FOLLOW-UP IS LEFT TO THE DISCRETION
OF RECEIVING OFFICES.

BT

#

-->

12-303-140
see cd

4

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.1 (#189)

TEXT:

CE00005 3021728Z

RR LS AT KX

DE CE

R 291728Z OCT 86

FM CHARLOTTE (12F-533) (P)

TO LOUISVILLE (12D-303) ROUTINE

ATLANTA (12G-738) ROUTINE

KNOXVILLE (12G-377) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208, TAIL NUMBER N551CC, DAMV;

NARCOTICS MATTER; OCTOBER 10, 1985; OO: ATLANTA

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II; NARCOTICS MATTER; OO: LOUISVILLE

RE NEWARK TELETYPE TO ATLANTA, ET AL, OCTOBER 20, 1986.

ON OCTOBER 29, 1986, SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] UNITED

STATES ARMY, CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION (DIC), FORT BRAGG,

NORTH CAROLINA, (FBNC), ADVISED THE FOLLOWING:

SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

(DEA), WILMINGTON NORTH CAROLINA, CONTACTED HIM ON OCTOBER 6, 1986,

IN ORDER TO LOCATE [REDACTED] WHO WAS ALLEGEDLY

ASSIGNED ACTIVE DUTY AT FBNC OF ALL CURRENT MILITARY ROSTERS

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b6
b7C

b6
b7C

12-303-141

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 30 1986	
FBI - KNOXVILLE	

(Info)

PAGE TWO CE 12F-533 UNCLAS

OF ALL CURRENT MILITARY ROSTERS FAILED TO REVEAL [REDACTED] PRESENCE AT FBNC, OR HIS ACTIVE DUTY PRESENT ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY.

b6
b7C

ON OCTOBER 29, 1986, IT WAS LEARNED THAT DEA, SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] WOULD BE OUT OF CONTACT UNTIL THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1986. HOWEVER, IN A REPORT HE FILED DATED OCTOBER 16, 1986, HE ADVISED THE NEW YORK, DEA THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

b6
b7C

SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] OF DEA, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, REQUESTED HIM TO SERVE A SUBPOENA ON [REDACTED] AT FBNC. HE WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE [REDACTED] AT FBNC BUT OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS FOR HIM: [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER [REDACTED]. HE REQUESTED THE NEW YORK OFFICE OF DEA TO SERVE THAT SUBPOENA. HE DID NOT LIST HIS INFORMATION FOR THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

CHARLOTTE AT FAYETTEVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA:

WILL CONTACT SPECIAL AGENT [REDACTED] OF DEA UPON HIS RETURN TO ACTIVE DUTY ON NOVEMBER 3, 1986.

b6
b7C

NEWARK IS BEING FURNISHED AIR MAIL COPY OF THIS TELETYPE.

BT

-->

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☐ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☐ UNCLAS

Date 10/27/86

1 TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303) (P)

2 FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738) (RUC)

3 ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III,
4 NARCOTICS MATTER:
5 OO: LOUISVILLE

6 Inasmuch as all outstanding leads have been covered
7 in the Atlanta Division and all logical investigation, the
8 Atlanta Division is considering this case RUC'd.

9
10
11
12
13 ② - Louisville (12D-303)
14 1 - Atlanta (12D-738)
15 TAS:lsg
16 (3)
17
18
19
20
21

Approved: WLK / B

Transmitted

(Number)

b6
b7c

Memorandum



To : SAC, ATLANTA (12G-738)

From : *pnw/laes* SAC, CHARLOTTE (12F-533) (RUC)

Date 12/15/86

Subject : DESTRUCTION OF CESSNA 208,
TAIL NUMBER N551CC,
DAMV; NARCOTICS MATTER
10/10/85;
OO: ATLANTA

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
NARCOTICS MATTER
OO: LOUISVILLE

Re Charlotte teletype to Louisville, 10/29/86.

On 11/28/86, Special Agent [redacted] Drug Enforcement Administration, Wilmington, N. C., advised that the address he obtained on [redacted] as set forth in referenced communication is all the information he has on this subject, and this was taken from information provided him by United States Army Criminal Investigation Division Agents.

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2 - Atlanta
② - Louisville (12D-303)
1 - Charlotte
TBM:lbi
(5)

12D-303-143
H *W*
1986
[redacted]

INL

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Date 10/22/85

Title and Character of Case

ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, III
NARCOTICS MATTER

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Date Property Acquired 10/17/85	Source From Which Property Acquired [redacted] NC State Bureau of Investigation
------------------------------------	--

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit LS - Bulky	Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same Evidence
---	--

To Be Returned <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Serial	Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit SA [redacted]	Agent Assigned Case SA [redacted] Louisville Division
---	------------	---	---

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☐ Yes ☐ No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Description of Property or Exhibit

Toll records on telephone number 919/875-3261, RAEFORD
AVIATION, INC. for 1983.

Toll records on telephone number 919/875-9328, RAEFORD
AVIATION, INC. for 1983.

For Valuable and/or Narcotics Evidence Only

Evidence Bag Seal # _____

Signature of Two
Special Agents
Verifying and Sealing
Bag Contents _____

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # CE 12G-533

OO: LOUISVILLE 12G-303

INDEX COPY

12G-303-1B (2)

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
NOV 4 1985	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

12G-533-144

BLOCK STAMP	
SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____	FILED _____
OCT 29 1985	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

Date 7/21/87

To: ☐ Director

CG 12B-781

Att: _____

FILE # LS 12B-R

☒ SAC CHICAGO

☐ ASAC ATTN: TIS

☐ Supv.

☐ Agent

☐ OSM _____

☐ Rotor # _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Typist _____

☐ M _____

☐ Room _____

Title COLOMBIAN NARCOTICS

TRAFFICKING

ORGANIZATIONS,

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

REI

OO: CG

RE: CG Airtel to LS, 7/10/87.

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☐ Acknowledge

☐ Assign ☐ Reassign

☐ Bring file

☐ Call me

☐ Correct

☐ Deadline _____

☐ Delinquent

☐ Discontinue

☐ Expedite

☐ File

☐ For Information

☐ Handle

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Open case

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Recharge file ☐ serial

☐ Send to _____

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Return file ☐ serial

☐ Return with action taken

☐ Return with explanation

☐ Search and return

☐ See me

☐ Type

Enclosed as requested in referenced communication is one copy of serial 73 of LS 12D-303 and serial 879 of LS 245B-5.

It should be noted these 2 serials contain the only information available to the Louisville Division regarding and .

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1-Chicago (Enc. 2)

③-Louisville (1-12B-R-)
(1-12D-303) (1-245B-5)

IMF/mla

(4) *[Signature]*

12D-303-144
Searched _____
Serialized VR
Indexed _____
Filed VR

SAC JOEL A. CARLSON

Office LOUISVILLE

See reverse side

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

- 1 -

Date of transcription 10/8/85

[redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment with the [redacted] with Lieutenant [redacted] KNOXVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT, Metro Narcotics Unit.

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[redacted] furnished the following information regarding his relationship with ANDREW CARTER THORNTON:

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[redacted] said that he first came to Knoxville in 1977 and met ANDREW THORNTON sometime between 1978 and 1979, through the THUNDERBIRD PARACHUTE CLUB at Lebreas, Kentucky, due to his parachute jumping activities. [redacted] said that ANDREW THORNTON was a very competent skydiver and he considered him in the expert category. [redacted] advised that he, himself, had 908 parachute jumps and had numerous jumps with THORNTON, stating that for expertise, THORNTON's company was desired for intricate manouvers and formations in that he was so competent he was never out of formation and at the right place at the right time for link ups. He said that he did not know THORNTON very well other than through the drop zone, meaning parachuting activities, but did know that THORNTON went to weapons shoots and was into martial arts.

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[redacted] stated that he knew about THORNTON's five month's jail sentence related to a narcotics violation, recalling that he had jumped with THORNTON the weekend before he went to Lexington to serve his time and that THORNTON, during a jump, went very low prior to opening his parachute during that weekend.

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[redacted] advised that he and his wife were in Lexington overnight on one occasion and had stayed at THORNTON's apartment, noting that the apartment THORNTON had at that time was a different one than was searched after his death by law enforcement in Lexington. He said that during his stay at THORNTON's apartment, he did not see any paramilitary equipment or martial arts

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Investigation on 9/26/85 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # 15 12D-303-145
KX 12G-377-44

by SA [redacted] / dld JED Date dictated 9/27/85

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KX 12G-377

Continuation of interview of [REDACTED]

On 9/26/85

Page - 2 -

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[REDACTED] paraphernalia such as described in news reports of what was found in THORNTON's apartment after his death. [REDACTED] said that other people who would know THORNTON due to parachuting activities in the Knoxville area were [REDACTED] home telephone number [REDACTED] business telephone [REDACTED] [REDACTED] runs a [REDACTED] and was an avid skydiver. [REDACTED] noted that [REDACTED] DAVID, had been killed approximately two years ago at Lebreas, Kentucky, in a skydiving accident, and that [REDACTED] had been having what he believed to be mental problems, had jumped with borrowed equipment, and "never pulled anything" during that fatal jump two years ago.

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[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] and his wife, [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] would also know THORNTON from parachute activities and that [REDACTED] is a civilian employee of the [REDACTED] and is a [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] who kept her maiden name, is a [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and that both she and her husband have been to parachute jumping events with THORNTON and acquainted with him for some time.

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[REDACTED] advised that at one time, ANDREW THORNTON and [REDACTED] had stayed at the [REDACTED] house in [REDACTED] on their way through town, but that unless THORNTON called him, he had no way of knowing if he were in [REDACTED] other than when he stayed at his house. [REDACTED] said that he had no idea that [REDACTED] was in [REDACTED] the night of THORNTON's death nor had he received any telephone calls or correspondence regarding this night.

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[REDACTED] stated that he did not know who, if anyone, might have been with THORNTON the night he died in Knoxville and that he had no prior knowledge of THORNTON's involvement in narcotics trafficking nor did he know him to carry weapons.

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[REDACTED] advised that he is currently jumping with a group in Greeneville, Tennessee, and that sometimes a plane is supplied for jumping by an individual named [REDACTED] who keeps an aircraft at MADISONVILLE AIRPORT and comes to Greeneville to support the jumping activities. [REDACTED] advised that he first began parachute jumping while working on his Master's Degree at the UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA at Omaha in [REDACTED] and had continued as a member of the AMERICAN PARACHUTE ASSOCIATION.

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KX 12G-377

Continuation of interview of [REDACTED]

On 9/26/85

Page

- 3 -

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[REDACTED] stated that he had called THORNTON and [REDACTED] regarding get togethers and also had corresponded with them in the past, but really had very little information regarding their backgrounds, in that their relationships were based on parachute jumping.

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[REDACTED] home address is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] home telephone number [REDACTED]
he is employed by [REDACTED] work telephone number [REDACTED] (good
for the next six months). after which he will be transferred to
the [REDACTED] is a
[REDACTED] date of birth [REDACTED].

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/8/85

[redacted] was contacted with [redacted] Lieutenant [redacted] [redacted] KNOXVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT METRO-NARCOTICS UNIT, at her place of employment; [redacted], and furnished the following information regarding she and her husband's relationship to ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II.

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[redacted] stated that she was formerly a skydiver with her husband, [redacted] since their marriage approximately [redacted] years ago. She and her husband [redacted] became acquainted with ANDREW THORNTON through a skydiving club at Berea, Kentucky, and she first learned of ANDREW THORNTON when he went to jail for some narcotics offense. [redacted] stated that she met [redacted] during the last year she was jumping and began jumping with [redacted]. She said that her husband [redacted] first began parachute jumping in Omaha, Nebraska, while attending school there, and that [redacted] probably knew THORNTON before they were married due to his parachute activities.

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[redacted] said that she had a total of fifty jumps as did [redacted] and that at one time while they were up in Kentucky skydiving, they stayed overnight at THORNTON's apartment when they were there approximately one year ago. They had stayed at THORNTON's due to the fact that they had no reservations, and she noted while at THORNTON's apartment, they never saw any military type equipment or items such as described in the news reports about THORNTON's paramilitary collection of equipment.

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[redacted] said that she last saw ANDREW THORNTON and [redacted] in Xenia, Ohio, at a "big boogie" sometime near the Fourth of July in 1985. At that time, ANDREW THORNTON talked about getting off probation and starting up his law practice again, and it appeared that he was straightening his life out.

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[redacted] said that she did not know THORNTON to carry weapons, and that normally whenever she saw him, he was wearing blue jeans and a T-shirt. She stated that normally among skydivers, they knew little about each other's backgrounds, and the only contacts they had were related to skydiving activities and "boggies" wherein they came together for skydiving functions.

Investigation on 9/26/85 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # LS 12D-303-146
KX 12G-377-43
by SA [redacted] clg [signature] Date dictated 9/27/85

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Continuation of interview of [REDACTED]

On: 9/26/85

Page 2

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[REDACTED] said that at one time ANDREW THORNTON and [REDACTED] came through [REDACTED] on their way to a skydiving activity outside Atlanta, and at that time, stayed overnight at the [REDACTED]. This would have been sometime in the early fall of 1984, and the parachute function took place somewhere twenty miles outside of Atlanta, Georgia.

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[REDACTED] advised that she has since given up skydiving due to the fact that they now have a child and that one of the reasons she quit was at her husband's request, due to the fact that while three months pregnant she landed in a tree. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] continues to jump but has decreased some of his jumping activities due to his work schedule.

[REDACTED] advised that she was very surprised at the news reports when THORNTON's body was found in Knoxville, and other than the previously mentioned legal problem on the part of ANDREW THORNTON, she knew of nothing of his involvement in narcotics or his association with any people who dealt narcotics. She was further surprised to learn of his wealth as reported in the newspaper, and restated that skydivers normally do not get into each other's backgrounds.

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[REDACTED] address is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] home telephone number [REDACTED].
Her date of birth is [REDACTED] and she employed in the [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/12/85

On September 11, 1985 Lt. [] and Lt. [] of the KNOXVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT appeared at the Knoxville FBI Office.

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Lt. [] and Lt. [] lodged and were receipted for the following:

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33 tan plastic bags with each bearing the letters, "USA" and number "10". Each bag was wrapped with plastic tape.

Lt. [] initials, [] are on each bag. Per Lt. [] the bags contain suspected cocaine.

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b7C

The aforementioned bags were contained in a military type seabag/duffel bag with the outer container being a black parachute equipment bag.

A count was made totaling 34 bags with one bag taken for laboratory analysis by Lt. []. The remaining 33 bags were placed back in the sea/duffel bag then black equipment bag. The black parachute equipment bag was then sealed with FBI Seal #0016653. The material was receipted by the below listed Special Agents and secured in the FBI gun vault.

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Investigation on 9/11/85 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX: 12G-377
by SA [] SA [] JED:plb Date dictated 9/11/85

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 9/19/85

On September 18, 1984, SA [] of the DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (DEA), Knoxville, Tennessee, picked up and receipted for the following items which had been lodged at the Knoxville FBI Office as of 9/11/85:

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33 tan plastic bags with each bearing the letters, "USA" and number "10". Each bag was wrapped with plastic tape and bore the initials, [] on each bag. Per Metro Narcotics Lt. [] the bags contained suspected cocaine.

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b7C

The aforementioned bags were contained in a military type seabag/duffel bag with the outer container being a black parachute equipment bag.

The 33 bags were placed back in the sea/duffel bag then in the black equipment bag. The black parachute equipment bag was sealed 9/11/85 with FBI Seal #0016653. The material was picked up by SA [] for transport to the Florida DEA Laboratory and FBI Seal #0016653 was intact.

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Investigation on 9/18/85 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # KX: 12G-377-18
by SA [] plb [Signature] Date dictated 9/18/85

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 10/15/85

[redacted] of [redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed with Lieutenant [redacted]
[redacted] of the Metro Narcotics Organized Crime Squad, KNOXVILLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT.

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[redacted] was contacted at his place of business
and furnished the following information regarding his association
with ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II, who was known to him as "DREW".

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[redacted] advised that he had known DREW THORNTON
since 1973 and had become acquainted with him through his
association in parachute jumping. [redacted] said that he
(himself) was a rated instructor with over 3,000 jumps and had
begun jumping while in the U. S. Navy as a UDT member.

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DREW THORNTON had only static line jumps while in the
military and was trained in sport parachute jumping by [redacted]
[redacted] DAVID STEVENS. DAVID STEVENS died in a parachute
accident at the Thunderbird Parachute Club in Berea, Kentucky.
Prior to DAVID's death, DREW had lived with him for a period
of time. It was during this time that DREW was a member of
the LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY, POLICE DEPARTMENT and served in the
Organized Crime Squad. At that time, THORNTON was furnished with
a Maserati sports car and [redacted] believes that through
his exposure he, THORNTON, realized he could make a lot more
money on the other side of the law.

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During the late 1970's, DREW THORNTON was involved
in taking a DC-4 airplane to San Salvador, South America, to
deliver guns. On the return trip it was evidently decided to
bring back a load of marijuana. [redacted] says that THORNTON
was caught and prosecuted for bringing back this marijuana and
he noted that to the best of his recollection the DC-4 used
by THORNTON was stolen.

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[redacted] said that during the last three years
he had known THORNTON, THORNTON became a heavy user of cocaine.

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Investigation on 10/8/85 at Knoxville, Tennessee File # 15120-303-148
KX 12G-377-45

by SA [redacted] JED:mlw Date dictated 10/9/85

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During skydiving "boogies" parties and related activities there were always a lot of "groupies" around THORNTON's van because he used and always had cocaine.

As to the death of THORNTON in Knoxville, [REDACTED] was of the opinion that THORNTON may have believed he was being followed by an aircraft so he did not slow down his own aircraft when he bailed out. At that speed the equipment bag would have jerked him out the plane's door and he could have broken his ribs by hitting the door frame on the way out. [REDACTED] believes that THORNTON may have been dead or dying on the way down. The accident would explain THORNTON's opening his reserve chute rather than his main in that he never, "released the brakes" meaning that he did not fully deploy the canopy before hitting the ground. He estimated that THORNTON was probably at 5,000 to 6,000 feet when he bailed out and that his intended drop zone was the Island Home Airport which he could have easily made had he gotten out of the aircraft successfully.

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[REDACTED] stated that he knew DAVID RAY WILLIAMS from skydiving and that WILLIAMS was a close friend of THORNTON's. WILLIAMS' nick name was "Cowboy" and [REDACTED] believed that he was connected to drugs with THORNTON. He said that he based this belief on the fact that WILLIAMS was one of the first buyers of the new model Cessna aircraft known as a model 208 Caravan and that this aircraft costs approximately \$680,000. He noted that WILLIAMS could not afford that kind of money in that he merely flew skydivers around and that this type activity would not generate that type of money.

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[REDACTED] said that he knew [REDACTED] and that DREW THORNTON had been [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] believed that THORNTON had chosen to jump out over Knoxville, Tennessee, in that it was a "new city" and that THORNTON was under a lot of pressure from law enforcement regarding his drug trafficking and was watched closely. [REDACTED] knew THORNTON to like excitement, that he had been that way all of his life and was aware of his involvement in martial arts and firearms. He noted that on occasion THORNTON would open his parachute at 800 feet with the excepted level being from 2 to 1,000 feet and that because of this THORNTON had been "kicked off several drop zones".

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[REDACTED] said that [REDACTED] had a friend who was a professor at the UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE,

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Continuation of interview of [REDACTED]

On: 10/8/85

Page 3

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name unknown, and that she may have stayed with this professor friend when she was in Knoxville.

[REDACTED] said that as far as additional information regarding DREW THORNTON that an individual named [REDACTED] who is an [REDACTED] should be contacted. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was the closest person to THORNTON and that [REDACTED] would have detailed information regarding THORNTON and his other associates and friends. [REDACTED] says that law enforcement should talk to [REDACTED] "before something happens to him".

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[REDACTED] advised that during the 1970's he flew an aircraft out of Madisonville Airport for skydiving and that during this period he had been approached by two unidentified people from out-of-state to utilize his parachute skills for jumping in with dope but that he had refused any sort of a deal like this.

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[REDACTED] advised that it was common knowledge among the people who parachute jump in the southeast that DREW THORNTON was involved in importation of cocaine and that the fatality which occurred in Knoxville was not the first time DREW THORNTON had brought in narcotics utilizing his parachuting.

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The following is descriptive data of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] taken from observation and interview:

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NAME:

DATE OF BIRTH:

SEX:

RACE:

HOME TELEPHONE
NUMBER:

EMPLOYMENT:

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

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Continuation of interview of

On: 10/8/85

Page 4

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PRIOR MILITARY
SERVICE:

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b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Louisville (12D-303)

DATE: 1/21/88

FROM : SAC, Knoxville (126-377)(RUC)

☐ RUC

☒ File Destruction Program

SUBJECT: Andrew Carter Morton, III
(Title)

Enclosed are 6 items.
These items are forwarded your office since:

☐ All logical investigation completed in this Division

☒ You were OO at the time our case was RUC'd.

Enclosures are described as follows:

5 original 302s & 1A items

Enc. 49

12D-303-149

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <u>m</u>	FILED <u>m</u>
FEB 01 1988	
FBI-LOUISVILLE	

FBI/DOJ

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONMEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/2/88

TO : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)

FROM : SAC, RICHMOND (12E-229) | | RUC
| X | FILE DESTRUCTION PROGRAM

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON III (Deceased)
Narcotics Matter

Enclosed are 1 items.

These items are forwarded your office since:

- | | All logical investigation completed in this Division.
- | X | You were OO at the time our case was RUC'd.

Enclosures are described as follows:

Original notes re interview.

NOTE: DO NOT BLOCK STAMP ORIGINAL ENCLOSURES

12A-303-150

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 7 1988	
FBI — LOUISVILLE	

Memorandum



To : SAC, LOUISVILLE (12D-303)

Date 11/1/88

From : SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738)

☐ RUC

FROM: SAC, ATLANTA (12D-738)

☒ File Destruction ProgramSUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON, II;
NARCOTICS - ITG;
OO:LSEnclosed are 6 items.
These items are forwarded your office since:☐ All logical investigation completed in this Division☒ You were OO at the time our case was RUC'd.

Enclosures are described as follows:

6 Original FD-302's
Original 1As
Original Lab Reports
Bulky Exhibit Sheets

Enc. 6

NOTE: DO NOT BLOCK STAMP ORIGINAL ENCLOSURES.

12D-303-151

T T

COP

When this WFD-302 is included in a report, note under the Administrative Section that the lengthy period between the dictation date and date of FD-302 was due to the delinquency in the Atlanta steno pool.

FD-302a (11-15-83)

AT 12G-738

Continuation of FD-302 of ROSWELL FUNERAL HOME on 10/01/85 , Page 2



Maryland
Maryland
Kentucky
North Carolina

b6
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/9/86

[redacted] investigator, Maryland Bank, N.A.,
400 Christina Road, Newark, Delaware, was contacted at his place of
business and duly served with an administrative subpoena calling
for Maryland Bank, N.A. mastercard records regarding account
of DAVID LEE WILLIAMS for the period 10/84 through 11/85.

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[redacted] furnished those Maryland Bank, N.A. records
pursuant, thereto.

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b7C

Investigation on 1/6/86 at Newark, Delaware. File # AT12D-738
BA149-468 *148*

RD

by SA

:aej

Date dictated 1/6/86b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/28/86

1

On January 16, 1986, a visual surveillance was conducted in and around the area where approximately 250 pounds of cocaine was found on the previous day. The surveillance indicated that the area where the parachute was found was just inside a tree line located adjacent to a 55 acre cleared pasture area. A reconnaissance of the area determined that there has been no vehicle traffic in or around where the parachute had landed and it was further noted that the Highway 42 and Highway 23 are located approximately 150 yards east of where the parachute was found and the residence of [redacted] was approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile, across an open field south of where the parachute and cocaine were found.

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There is a treeline that runs along a waterway running parallel with Brookwood Avenue or Highway 42 and Highway 23 and also there is a house located approximately 100 yards from where the cocaine was dropped belonging to an individual only identified as [redacted]. No one was home at the [redacted] residence at the time this surveillance was conducted.

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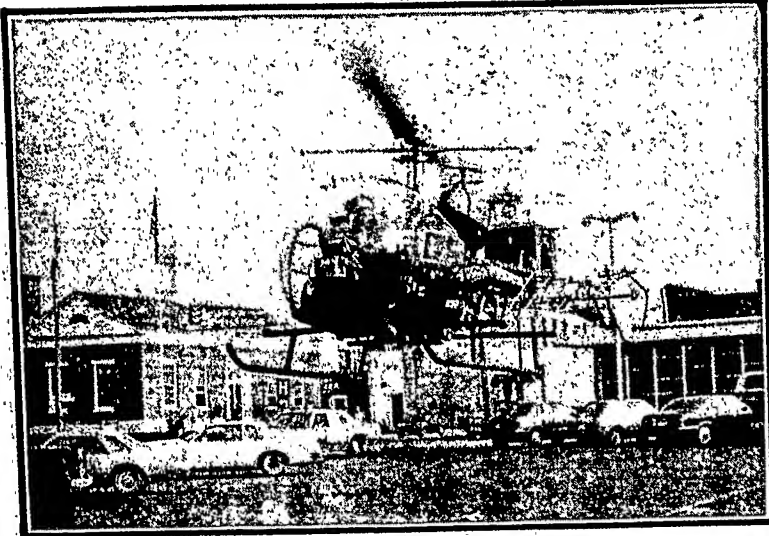
Attached to and being made a part hereof is a map of the Jackson, Georgia, area with the residence of [redacted] and the [redacted] residence being marked to indicate their relationship to the area where the cocaine was found. On the reverse side of the Jackson map is a Butts County map showing the location of the Westwind Parachute Club, the location of the site where the cocaine was found and the site where personal property and papers of THORTON were located a few months back.

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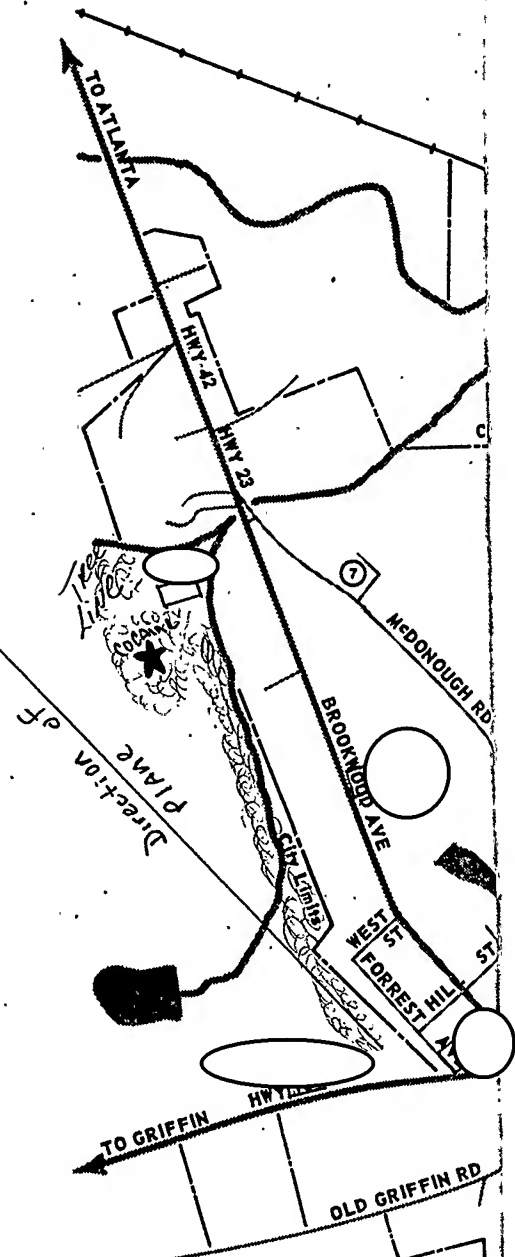
Investigation on 1/16/86 at Jackson, Georgia File # AT 12D-738-156
by SA [redacted] bbh Date dictated 1/21/86

b6
b7C

WELCOME TO JACKSON GEORGIA



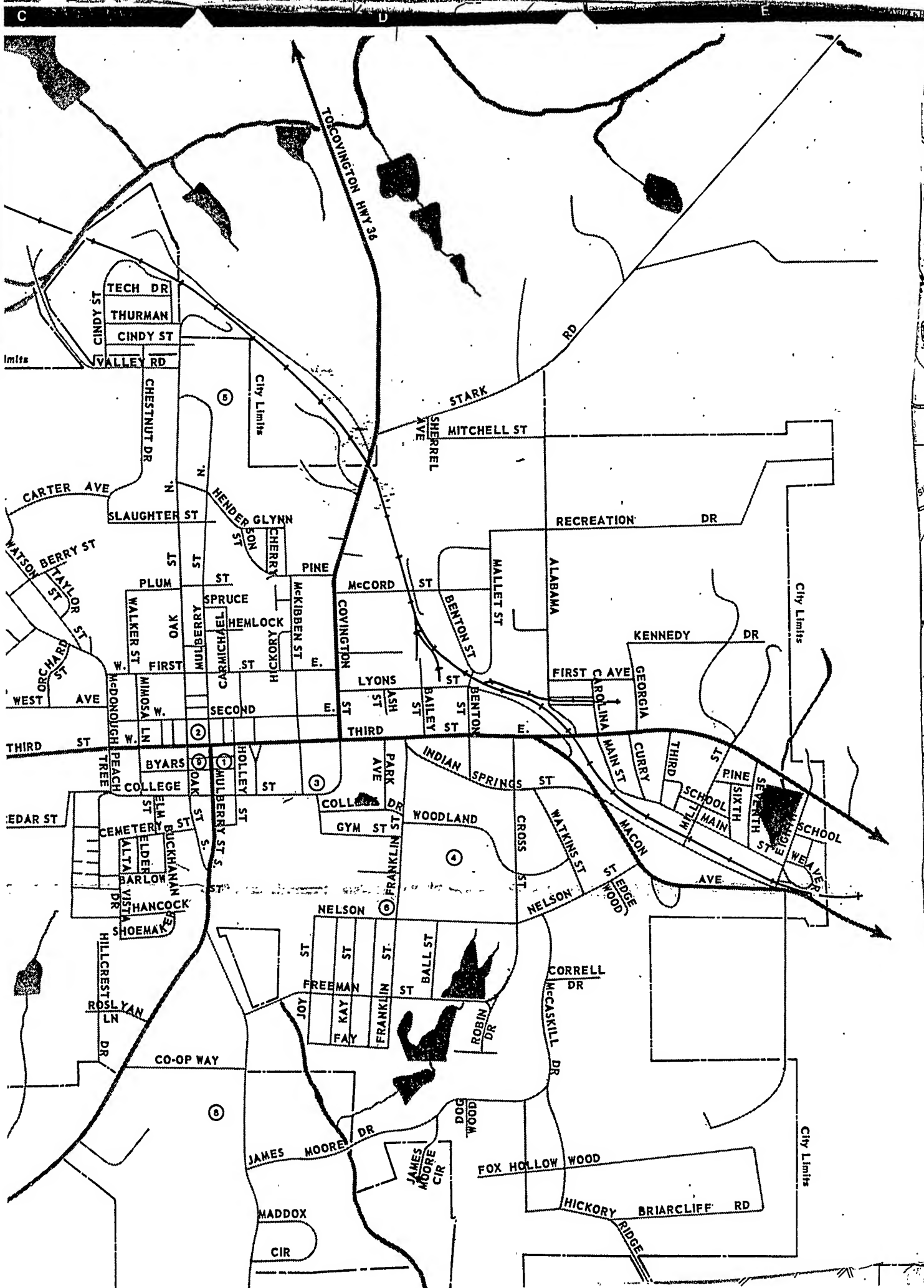
CHOPPER AT JACKSON CITY HALL

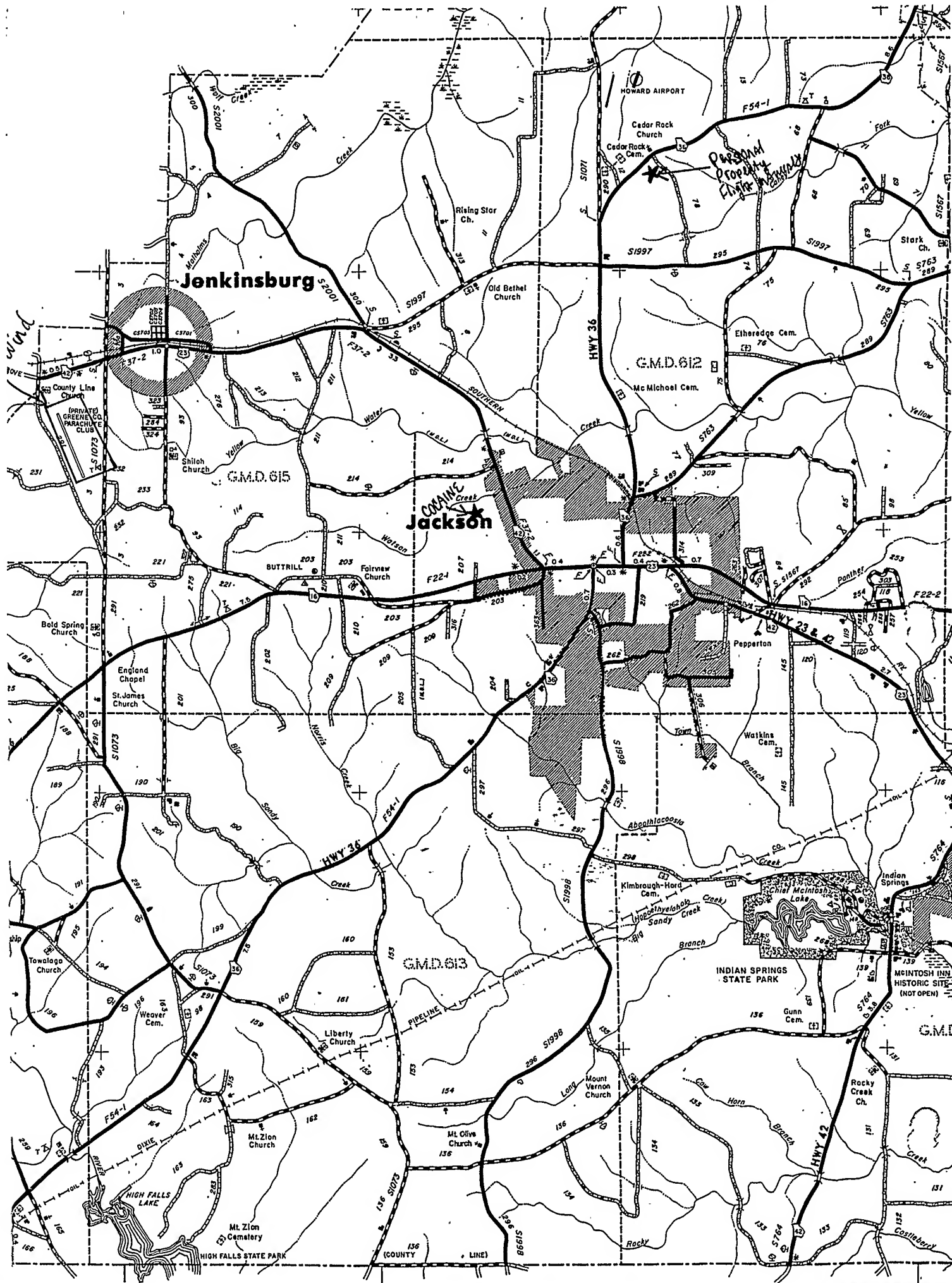


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POINTS OF INTEREST

- 1- CITY HALL D3
- 2- COURTHOUSE C3
- 3- LIBRARY D3
- 4- PRIMARY & HIGH SCHOOL D3
- 5- ELEMENTARY & JR. HIGH SCHOOL D2
- 6- NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY D3
- 7- HOSPITAL C2
- 8- INDIAN SPRINGS ACADEMY D4
- 9- POST OFFICE C3





Q&S

775-3178

Monday - Tuesday - Thursday

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Wednesday - Saturday

9:00 AM to 12 Noon

Drive-In — Everyday at 8:30 AM

24 Hour Instant Banker



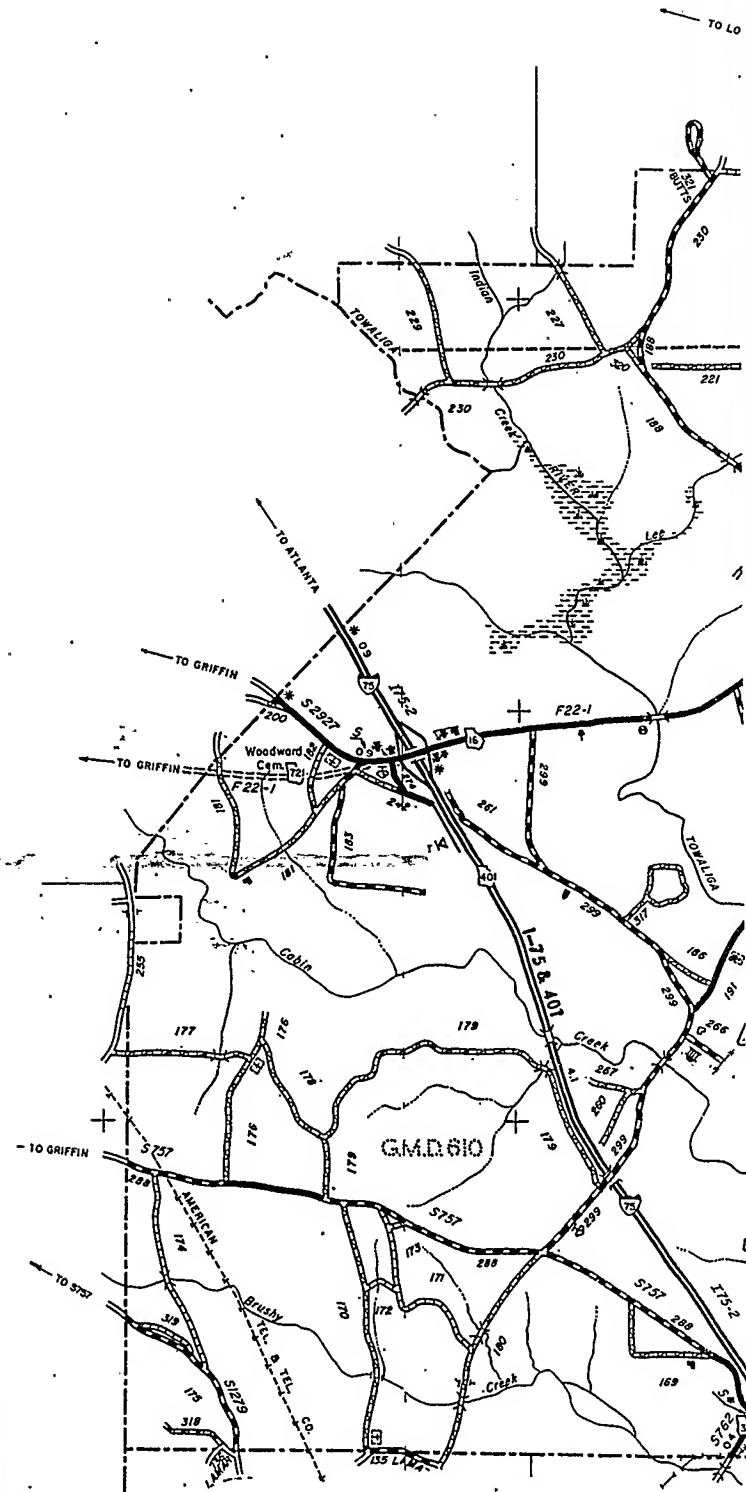
Each depositor insured to \$100,000



MAPLE ROAD - BUTTS COUNTY



THE BEAUTIFUL CHURCHES IN THE COUNTY ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF COMMUNITY LIFE.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1/28/86

Date of transcription

1

[redacted] was contacted at his residence, [redacted] home telephone number [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview being conducted, he voluntarily provided the following information:

b6
b7C

[redacted] did not recall any unusual planes flying over his residence at any time. He clarified this by stating that a number planes fly over his farm, local and en route to Atlanta Hartsfield Airport. He stated he was working on his fence line when he noticed a white nylon looking piece of cloth that had been covered up with leaves. [redacted] advised that [redacted] became curious and wanted to check out the white material. [redacted] and [redacted] approached the area and saw a parachute which [redacted] described as being nylon and solid white in color. [redacted] stated that it had been there for approximately 60 to 90 days as he does not get to that area of his farm very often. He stated that attached to the parachute were three black bags which [redacted] described as being approximatey 4 feet long and 14 inches in diameter with a zipper that runs the length of the bag. [redacted] stated that [redacted] saw one of the bags open and noticed plastic bags containing a white substance wrapped in burlap inside the bags. Upon discovering this, [redacted] immediately called the Butts County Sheriff's Office and an investigator was dispatched to his locations. [redacted] stated that the Westwind Parachute Club was approximately two to three miles "as a crow flies" from his farm in a northwesterly direction. [redacted] advised that he has not seen anyone in or around his pastures as when a person or vehicle enters his land he immediately checks to see who it is and what their business is.

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[redacted] advised that he would not object to having drug dogs on his property, however, he did stipulate that they would have to remain on a leash as he did not want them bothering his cows.

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Investigation on 1/16/86 at JACKSON, GEORGIA File # AT 12D-738 157

by SA [redacted] bhh Date dictated 1/21/86

b6
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/28/86

1

[redacted]
[redacted] was interviewed at her place of employment, [redacted]
[redacted]. After being advised of the
identity of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the
interview being conducted, she voluntarily provided the
following information:

[redacted] noticed a plane coming over her house
one or two times per week for approximately two or three
weeks. She described the plane as having two engines,
silver looking with no lights on and flying very low but
not making much noise. The plane would be observed flying
over her residence at approximately 8:00 p.m., or 9:00
p.m. [redacted] further stated that she never saw anything
go out of the plane and that she did not see anyone in
a pasture located across from her house after the plane
flew over. [redacted] stated that the plane stopped just
before the weather started getting cold, about the same
time the parachutist jumped to his death in Knoxville,
Tennessee.

Investigation on 1/16/86 at Jackson, Georgia File # AT 12D-738 158

by SA [redacted] R
SA [redacted] bbh Date dictated 1/21/86

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 1/28/86

1

[redacted] was contacted at his place of employment. [redacted] home address [redacted] home telephone number [redacted] work telephone [redacted]. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview being conducted he voluntarily provided the following information:

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[redacted] stated that during the months of September and October, he was accustomed to sitting on his front porch in the evenings, during which time, for a two week period, he observed a plane flying approximately 300 to 400 feet above the ground with no lights on at around 9:00 p.m. The first time he observed the plane it was flying in a northwesterly direction at which time something was dropped from the airplane with a flashlight attached to the underneath side. The second plane flew over a week later at approximately 8:00 or 9:00 p.m., this time an object was thrown from the plane attached to a round parachute which PACE described as looking like a safety shoot. [redacted] stated the plane was going in the same direction as the first plane and when asked when the second plane came over he stated that it was the night before the parachutist jumped to his death in Knoxville, Tennessee.

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[redacted] described the airplane as having heavy running engines and he believed it to have two engines. [redacted] further described the plane as a dirty white looking plane and when the plane flew over, it had very rough-sounding engines. [redacted] further advised that he notified the Butts County Sheriff about two or three days afterwards.

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Investigation on 1/16/86 at Jackson, Georgia File # AT 12D-738-163
by SA [redacted] :bbh Date dictated 1/21/86

b6
b7C

memorandum

DATE: 5/6/91

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II
FOIPA MATTER

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

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b7C

On 3/14/91, [REDACTED] FBIHQ, Extension 5572, called re the current status of LS12D-303.

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Contact was made with Case Agent [REDACTED] who requested a re-check be made with DEA Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, TN, to determine the status of their investigation.

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b7C

On 4/8/91, DEA Agent [REDACTED] (FTS 854-9334) advised there was only 1 fugitive outstanding in his case. This individual was a part of the ground crew and is a heroin addict from New York. Charges against this individual are being dropped and their case being closed, once the U. S. Attorney has dismissed the charges.

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On 4/24/91, this information was provided to SA [REDACTED] SA [REDACTED] advised Louisville is currently investigating [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] was a close associate of THORNTON's and SA [REDACTED] is concerned that any release of information at this time would adversely affect the current investigation should this information make headlines in the local newspaper thereby causing subjects in the current case to cease their criminal activities.

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On 5/6/91, contact was made with [REDACTED] FBIHQ, and the above information provided to her. She advised she will review her files to determine what information has been requested and will recontact the Louisville Office before any release is made.

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①-12D-303
1-190-347
1-190-349
mla

(3)

men

1*

12D-303-153

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 10 1991	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	
[REDACTED]	

b6
b7C

memorandum

DATE: 6/3/91

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:SUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II
FOIPA MATTER

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

On 6/3/91, [redacted] FBIHQ, Extension 5572, called to advise she was denying 12D-303 using the (b)(7)(A) exemption reflecting a pending status per information provided by SA [redacted] re case involving [redacted] a former associate of THORNTON's. SA [redacted] felt any release of information re THORNTON would adversely affect the [redacted] case.

An interview conducted by Richmond Division re [redacted] was going to be released by [redacted] to [redacted] as this matter did not relate to THORNTON, and the request was made by [redacted] for his interview only.

For information of the file.

1-12D-303
1-190-347
1-190-349
mla
(3)
mes

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12D-303-154

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
JUN -3 1991	
FBI - LOUISVILLE	

cc- (info)

memorandum

DATE: 1/7/93

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

[REDACTED]

b6
b7CSUBJECT: ANDREW CARTER THORNTON II
FOIPA MATTER

TO: SAC, LOUISVILLE

On 12/31/92, [REDACTED] FBIHQ, FOIPA Section, contacted the writer in order to determine the status of Louisville file 245C-LS-57775 and the impact release of information relating to THORNTON would make on that particular case. [REDACTED] was advised that the case agent in this matter would be contacted for his opinion.

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b7C

On 1/4/93, [REDACTED] Lexington RA, was contacted re the above and advised the current investigation pertaining to [REDACTED] an associate of THORNTON's, would be adversely affected by the release of any information.

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This opinion was relayed to [REDACTED] the same date, and she advised she would continue to withhold information under b7A.

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b7C

For information of the file.

① - 12D-303

1 - 190-347

1 - 190-349

PSH/psh

(3)

psh

12D-303-155

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 07 1993	